

END COLUMN
Lifting lid off Balkan wounds

By Chris Thau
he European wrestling championships in Cardiff next month will see the resurgence of the man who is, pound for pound, the strongest in the world: now he is named Nino. It was two years ago, he was known as Shalimanov, of Bulgaria.

Born in Bulgaria to a Turkish family named Shalimanov, 30 years ago, he became the youngest world record-holder and junior champion at 14.

During the Bulgarian regime against Turkey, Shalimanov was forced to change his name to the first letter of his own name. Three times his own weight above his head, he won the world record in the 60kg class in 1966, the 65kg class in 1967, and the 70kg class in 1968. He was regarded as invincible.

His defection in December 1968 to Melbourne, after winning the World Cup for a third time, was a political statement. Shalimanov, his coach, and his family were expelled from Bulgaria. He was granted political asylum in the United States, including the right to travel to the United Kingdom.

Shalimanov is believed to be a secret agent for the Bulgarian government. He has been seen in the United States and the United Kingdom.

LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 472,000
No 63,042



WEDNESDAY MARCH 30 1988

30p

Lord Young hails car group sale to British Aerospace as 'deal of the decade'

Anger greets £800m payout in Rover deal

By Robin Oakley and Daniel Ward

British Aerospace will pay only £150 million for the Rover car group and the Government will inject £800 million into the company to pay off bank debts. It will also write off £1.1 billion in accumulated tax debts.

Amid whistles of surprise at the figures, Labour spokesman Mr Bryan Gould condemned the deal in the Commons as "political irresponsibility and industrial sabotage, totally lacking in industrial logic or commercial sense."

Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry who announced the deal in the House of Lords, said last night that it was the deal of the decade for the

Government and marked "the end of a long journey". He denied it was a knockdown price and said it was "the opportunity for us to find a safe home for the Rover Group and make it a substantial reduction in our liabilities".

But under opposition pressure the Government was forced to promise an early debate on the terms.

The Rover Group has a turnover of £3 billion, exports of £1 billion and employs 43,000 people directly, with more than 100,000 in the components sector and 50,000 in the distribution networks.

At the end of 1987 the Rover companies had an asset value of £334 million.

The joint company with British Aerospace would have annual turnover of £7 billion and employ 140,000 in Britain and abroad.

Under the arrangements conditionally settled for the sale, the Department of Trade and Industry has agreed with BAE and Rover to eliminate £1.1 billion of accumulated tax losses. However, Rover is to be allowed to offset the remaining £500 million of past losses against tax on future profits.

From the day the company changes hands, past Government promises - the Varley-Marshall-Joseph assurances - to guarantee the group's bank debts, trading creditors and other obligations will cease.

British Aerospace has guaranteed to keep Rover going for at least five years and Lord Young revealed that BAE will have to repay the Government in full up to a limit of £650 million any proceeds from selling Austin Rover or Land Rover before 1993.

Lord Young also said he had given assurances to the chairman of Honda, Rover's Japanese partner, that the young Rover management team will be retained.

The Rover Group has swallowed £2.9 billion of taxpayers' money and run up accumulated losses of £2.6 billion since 1974. But it made a profit last year before interest and taxation of £27 million.

The conditional agreement

for the sale now has to be approved by British Aerospace shareholders and by the European Economic Community, because of the level of State aid involved.

Lord Young said Mr Peter Sutherland, the EEC Trade Commissioner, on Monday and the Commission met yesterday to open the investigations, which involve approval for the deal being given by all the EEC nations. The approval may well take longer than the official deadline of April 30.

A year ago, when the Government wanted to inject £750 million into the loss-making Leyland bus and truck operations before selling them off, the EEC reduced the amount of permitted state aid to £680 million.

Lord Young said the deal was "remarkably attractive for the taxpayer" but Labour MPs condemned the Government for seeking to give away the company at almost any price and for failing to give assurances about the future of jobs in the group.

Mr Robert Sheldon, the chairman of the powerful Commons Public Accounts Committee, warned that the committee might want to investigate the justification for the sale and whether there was sufficient protection for taxpayers.

Although Tory MPs were solidly behind the sell-off terms, Lord Bruce-Gardyne, a former Conservative Treasury Minister, said in the Lords: "Even with these golden give-away terms, the needs of the Rover Group



End of a long journey for the Government: Lord Young beams as Mr Graham Day (left) and Professor Roland Smith, sign their agreement yesterday

City is astounded by 'dream' sale terms

By David Brewerton

The City was stunned yesterday at the terms which British Aerospace has won from the Government for Rover. One leading engineering analyst, Mr Ian Wild, of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, commented: "The terms are even better for British Aerospace than I imagined in my wildest dreams. The Government is paying £650 million to get rid of Rover as it stood at the end of 1987."

From the moment the proposal was announced in January, BAE has made it clear to investors that the price it would have to pay would be minimal, but nobody expected BAE to drive such a hard bargain.

It had been expected that the Government would inject up to £400 million and that BAE would pay about half that for the company. In the event, the sum injected is twice that envisaged.

The reaction of the stock market to the deal was summed up in the BAE share price, which soared 60p to 412p. The Rover price, however, sagged 10p to 65p compared with the 2.7p a share the Government is claiming for its 99.8 per cent shareholding.

Rover had a net worth of £334 million at the end of 1987, to which has to be added the planned £800 million cash injection. BAE is then paying £150 million, which means that the deal will add nearly a billion pounds to the net assets of BAE.

Campaign Group members quit over leadership contest

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Four prominent members of Labour's Campaign Group have resigned in protest at the decision of the far-left body to challenge Mr Neil Kinnock's leadership of the party.

Two others have withdrawn from the group while the leadership contest goes on.

Ms Clare Short, Mrs Margaret Beckett, Ms Jo Richardson, all front-bench spokesmen, and Mrs Joan Ruddock all tendered their resignations yesterday.

The two who have withdrawn are Mr Allan Roberts, also a front-bench spokesman, and Mrs Joan Whalley.

Ms Short and Mrs Beckett voted against last Wednesday night's decision of the group to run Mr Tony Benn against Mr Kinnock. Ms Richardson and Mrs Ruddock did not attend the meeting but would have opposed the decision.

The latest twist in Labour's internal battle comes as Mr John Prescott announces today that he is entering the contest to challenge Mr Hattersley for the post of deputy.

Mr Kinnock is to continue to fight the contest on a joint ticket with Mr Hattersley despite the fears of Labour MPs that a poor result for the deputy leader would also harm Mr Kinnock.

Mr Prescott's candidature is to be announced today by Mr Sam McCuskie, the general secretary of his union, the National Union of Seamen. Mr McCuskie is also the Labour Party Treasurer and, by appearing with Mr Prescott

after a meeting of the union's executive today, the two men are hoping to show that Mr Prescott's entry is not an anti-Kinnock move.

The Campaign Group resignations follow the rift within the group over the wisdom of a contest.

The Times can confirm that only 16 MPs voted for the leadership contest last Wednesday. That is less than half the membership of the

Mahon, Mr Bill Michie, Mr David Nellist, Mr Dennis Skinner and Mr Pat Wall. Those voting against were Ms Short, Mrs Beckett, Ms Dawn Primarolo, Mr Gavin Stang, Mrs Joan Whalley, Mr Chris Mullin, Mrs Audrey Wise.

When the voting turned to the deputy leadership four more MPs including Ms Short and Miss Primarolo voted for the contest. The figure for that vote was 20-4.

Most Labour MPs were of the view yesterday that Mr Hattersley faced a tough fight in the contest with Mr Prescott. Although the Tribune Group of MPs voted against a contest many will cast their votes for Mr Prescott, a Tribune member rather than Mr Hattersley. Mr Prescott's vote could also be stronger in the constituency party section, leaving Mr Hattersley to rely heavily on the votes of the trade unions to secure his reelection.

Many MPs would have preferred Mr Kinnock not to be so closely tied to Mr Hattersley in the election, but the Labour leader has made plain that he regards the fight as a joint one. Senior MPs, some of them on the soft left, met at the Commons on Monday night to plan the campaign to re-elect the present leadership.

It is expected that a much smaller campaign committee will be formed, but among those at Monday's meeting were the front benchers Mr Tony Blair, Mr Gordon Brown, Mr Robin Cook and Mr Frank Dobson.

Checkland welcomes TV labour inquiry

By Richard Evans Media Editor

Mr Michael Checkland, director general of the BBC, admitted yesterday that restrictive labour practices continue to hamper the corporation and he intends to provide full details to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry announced by the Government.

Mr Checkland told the Broadcasting Press Guild in London that the BBC did not face the kind of costly "Spanish practices" that have plagued the ITV companies.

Industry reaction 33

but he said increased "flexibility and freedom" were crucial to its plans.

Existing trade union practices prevented the BBC from fulfilling the full commercial potential of its archives, which contain half a million cans of film and 150,000 video tapes, by selling programmes to new broadcasting outlets.

Every artist appearing in a programme held in the archives had to give his or her permission before it could be sold or used elsewhere. The restrictions prevented the BBC selling certain programmes to Super Channel, ITV's European satellite service, because some artists would not give their consent.

Mr Checkland wants a simpler agreement which will give

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TOMORROW

THE RESPONSE TO THE TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND has been huge — and it's not over yet. Tomorrow The Times announces the names of the finalists who will compete next month for the £5,000 first prize.

Sometimes I wish I was a CAR...

ROVER GIVEN MILLIONS.

Sterling at highest for two years

By David Smith Economics Correspondent

The pound rose to its highest level for more than two years yesterday, and share prices recovered after recent falls. The FT-SE 100 index gained 18.6 points to close at 1,765.1.

Paradoxically, sterling was helped by market talk, quickly denied, that Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, had resigned. Dealers felt that, under a new Chancellor, sterling would be allowed to find its own level.

It closed at DM3.1074, a gain of 2.5 pence on the day, and rose by 1.15 cents to \$1.8690. The sterling index rose by 0.6 points to 77.7, its highest since January 1986.

The Prime Minister again denied that there was a rift between her and Mr Lawson. He told US correspondents based in London that he was content with the pound at its present level.

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Whoooping cough judgement Parents' test case rejected

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

More than 200 claims brought by parents for compensation over alleged brain damage suffered by their children from whooping cough vaccine are almost certain to be abandoned after a test case failed in the High Court yesterday.

The case brought by the parents of Susan Lovelady was dismissed by Lord Justice Stuart-Smith after he had spent more than six hours delivering part of his 300-page judgement.

His decision means that it cannot be shown that the whooping cough vaccine causes permanent brain damage; an essential hurdle if the parents were to proceed with the rest of their action for damages, thought to be one of the most expensive cases brought on legal aid.

It represents a bitter blow to Mr and Mrs Lovelady who started proceedings in 1982 over alleged brain damage caused to their daughter by the pertussis vaccine in 1970; and also to all the other parents with cases waiting to be heard.

Afterwards Mrs Maura Lovelady, who looks after Susan, aged 17, with her husband at their home in Hackney, East London, said the case was a great disappointment. "It is tragic, not only for us but for all the children. Obviously I don't agree with the judge's decision, or I would not be here doing all this."

It is too soon to say if there will be an appeal, particularly as Lord Justice Stuart-Smith has not finished reading his judgement.

But already the costs in the case are huge and it may be that an appeal would be prohibitive in terms of the extra costs and time involved.

Family's despair 2

ANC agent shot dead in Paris

By Nicholas Beeson

The African National Congress representative in Paris was shot dead by an assassin yesterday as South African security forces announced they had tracked down and killed four ANC guerrillas who crossed into the Transvaal from Zimbabwe.

French police said that the body of Mrs Dulcie September was discovered at the entrance to the ANC's bureau in Paris. She had been shot repeatedly by a gunman who ambushed her as she opened the office door.

An ANC spokesman said in Lusaka: "Evidence before us suggests this is coming from the South African dirty tricks department as part of a terror campaign against the ANC." The accusation was denied by South Africa's Foreign Minister in Cape Town.

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Paris denial, page 9

GREENPEACE

THE GREAT WHALES

Since commercial whaling was banned in 1986, 11,000 whales have been slaughtered, many for so-called scientific research.

Iceland was the first whaling nation to be exposed. To make Iceland pay dearly for the whales she kills, Greenpeace is promoting a boycott of Icelandic fish. Meanwhile Greenpeace will work for a permanent ban on commercial whaling.

THANK GOD SOMEONE'S MAKING WAVES

GREENPEACE URGENTLY NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT.

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Damp and dirt destroying museum treasures

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Hundreds of thousands of treasures belonging to the British Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum are being damaged, in some cases irreparably, through prolonged storage in damp, dirty and overcrowded conditions.

In a report to Parliament, the Comptroller and Auditor General, Mr John Bourn, also discloses that there has never been a comprehensive stocktaking of more than seven million objects in the museums' collections. Many have never been displayed and few are ever disposed of despite acquisition and storage problems.

The museums blame lack of funds and staff for the problems but Mr Bourn says that urgent action has to be taken and that hard choices between priorities are "inevitable". Remedial steps were being taken but "it will be many years, if ever, before damage and deterioration" could be remedied.

The museums have increased their storage space from 22,000 to 48,000 square metres in the past 10 years but the report makes it clear that is inadequate. It says that a Victoria and Albert survey in 1987 found storage space to be "cramped, chaotic and overcrowded" with individual departments having "carved stores for themselves out of unsuitable spaces with no central planning or guidance".

A 1985 survey of that museum's National Art Library showed that 15 per cent of its million books required major repairs and nearly all needed

some attention. Deterioration, dust and dirt was everywhere and no collection was free from damage. "The collections of greatest historical and monetary value were suffering most and were having least time and money spent on them."

Two-thirds of 2000 sixteenth to twentieth century miniature paintings required conservation work; 100,000 items in the Prints and Drawings Department needed urgent treatment and there was a 200-year backlog of conservation work; and third of the 600 items in the reserve collection of tapestries were decaying.

The British Museum had no temperature or humidity controls or air filtration system in the overcrowded storage space for the two to three million works held by the Prints and

Badminton

NEWS ROUNDUP

Truce declared in coal dispute

The South of Scotland Electricity Board has agreed to take supplies from the Scottish coalfield until the end of June. The truce announced last night in the dispute over pricing will enable negotiations on future supplies to proceed without the threat of court action by British Coal.

British Coal has agreed to apply for an immediate recall of interdicts taken out in the Scottish Court of Session last month forcing the board to take supplies for two of its power stations until agreements run out on Friday. The move temporarily lifts the threat hanging over around 3,500 mining jobs.

Last month the electricity board, which provides the Scottish coalfield with about £150 million of business a year, said that if prices were not substantially reduced contracts would not be renewed. Failure to reach agreement led British Coal to seek interim interdicts stopping the board from burning cheap imported supplies at two power stations until agreements ran out on April 1.

Defence row looms

A fresh Commons dispute is likely over a renewed attempt by Labour to place a member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament on the key defence select committee. Mr Derek Foster, the chief whip, has nominated Mr John McFall, MP for Dumbarton. Committee members are opposed to accepting a unilateralist. They argue such a member would destroy the committee's relationship of trust with the Ministry of Defence, which would no longer give it invaluable access to classified information. Mr McFall, whose constituency includes the nuclear submarine bases of Faslane and Coulport, has genuine defence interests. However, Conservative MPs are almost certain to object to his nomination and force a vote in the House of Commons.

Matthey man jailed

A senior executive of Johnson Matthey, the collapsed City bankers, was able to steal because of his employers' casual approach to finance, Mr Justice Rousher said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. "The bank's affairs were conducted in a manner whose laxity makes one shudder," he said in jailing Michael Flawn for nine months for stealing £2,500. Flawn, of Ploughman's Way, Rainham, Kent, resigned as assistant manager of Johnson Matthey's banking division in 1984, shortly before its collapse. He said he was paid less than £10,000 a year and had heavy bills.

Inquest on coroner

A coroner who spent 20 years listening to evidence of people's deaths hanged himself because he was depressed, an inquest was told yesterday. Paul Petty, aged 59, district coroner for Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, was found dead in a hotel last week. The hearing was adjourned until April 13.

Killer divorced

A woman whose husband slit her throat and left her for dead was granted a divorce yesterday because of his unreasonable behaviour. Madhu Bakshi, aged 44, a doctor, was near to death when she was found in Bickley Woods, south-east London, in 1986. Her husband, John, aged 53, is serving 14 years for attempted murder with a concurrent life sentence for murdering his first wife, who was insured for £100,000.

The dwindling power of the closed shop

By John Spicer and Daniel Ward

Government legislation has whittled away the power of trade union closed shop agreements to such a degree that only 30,000 workers out of the nation's 23 million employees have full legal protection under them. Soon the new employment law will outlaw closed shops altogether.

According to figures from Acas, the conciliation service, only 124 ballots establishing closed shops have been held, and 97 of them approved the agreement.

The balloting system was brought in at the end of 1984 to ensure workers could not be dismissed for refusing to join a union and to give them protection if membership is withdrawn.

Since then, British Gas, British Telecom and British Rail have ended their closed shop agreements

without significant union opposition. And earlier this month British Coal warned the pit deputies (NACODS) that their longstanding closed shop was to end.

But there are about three million workers in Britain who are still forced to join a union because of longstanding agreements with employers. Monday's announcement that the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is to investigate restrictive working practices and the closed shop will add to the pressure being exerted by managers in industries where they are still in force.

According to Mrs Thatcher the television industry is "the last bastion of restrictive practices" and, following changes in the printing industry, the entertainment world will inevitably face scrutiny.

The television and cinema technicians' union (ACTT), the Mu-

sicians' Union and the actors' union, Equity, all maintain closed shop agreements and exert enormous power and influence on TV and film production.

Even during the Falklands War, members of the ACTT "blackened" official film shot by Navy cameramen. And when the Sunday Times reported in June last year that a TV-am technician covering the Zeebrugge ferry disaster had submitted an overtime claim amounting to £92,000, the company took action. The current row at TV-am is based on a need to cut overheads.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission will certainly want to find out why independent producers can make television programmes for £50,000 an hour, while it costs the BBC £60,000 and some ITV productions £125,000 an hour. In industry, restrictive practices

and the closed shop have reduced dramatically since the days of strong union power in the 1970s.

P & O managers, who took over the cross-Channel ferry routes from Townsend-Thoresen last year, were appalled to find that officers on their Zeebrugge ships worked only 79 days with 286 days off a year and ratings worked 94 days in a year with 271 off. Their efforts to change things have led to the current eight-week ferry strike.

New car plants and factories where fresh management has taken over, are providing cracks in the previously solid closed shop in the car industry but because employment is still falling, union representation will remain high for some years as few new workers are recruited.

Nissan management in Sunderland encourage workers to join the

solely recognized engineering union but the AEU represents less than one third of the shopfloor workforce. When the former Bedford van plant at Luton was handed over to Anglo-Japanese management, union membership was no longer a condition of employment though management was not certain yesterday how many workers no longer belonged to a union.

In contrast, a union card remains a condition of employment at Ford where, despite the transport union representing over 60 per cent of the workforce, there are at least seven main unions. More than half the staff belongs to white-collar unions though it is not a condition of employment.

The worst examples of demarcation between unions have largely disappeared from the car industry but inflexibility remains in the older plants.

Interception of calls

Telephone tappers made three errors

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Three mistakes in the interception of telephone calls are disclosed by Lord Justice Lloyd in his annual report, published yesterday.

In the first case, British Telecom connected their interception device to the wrong line and the error was not rectified for three weeks. In the second, interception began on April 6, 1987 under a warrant dated April 4 but not received by British Telecom until April 8. The third case concerned a number that had been changed and was no longer that of the target.

"I called for a full explanation of these three incidents," Lord Justice Lloyd said. "In particular, I was concerned, in the case of the first incident that the mistake had taken so long to come to light."

"I did not have the same concern in relation to the second incident, because there had been no calls on the wrong number so there was nothing to put the police on enquiry."

Lord Justice Lloyd, Commissioner under the Interception of Commu-

nications Act, 1985, said he was satisfied by the answers he received from British Telecom that everything which was humanly possible would be done to prevent such mistakes in future.

"I have also been assured that in each case all wrongly intercepted material was destroyed as soon as the errors were recognized."

Lord Justice Lloyd gave examples of care taken to observe not only the letter but also the spirit of the Act.

Postal warrants authorized the interception of letters to or from a specified address. This would, in theory, cover all letters to or from that address, including for example, a letter addressed to a lodger. But unless the case is made out for interception of all letters to be addressed, it is in practice limited to letters addressed to or sent by the target.

There are special cases where the Secretary of State authorizes interception of calls at a telephone to which members of the public have access.

"Interception in such cases is often combined with surveillance, so that calls are intercepted only when it is suspected that the target is about to use the telephone in question."

Warrants in force for interception authorized by the Home Secretary and Secretary of State for Scotland of telecommunications and letters have risen from 310 on December 31, 1985 (including 234 for telecommunications), to 317 a year later and 324 on December 31, 1987.

The report was to Mrs Thatcher by Lord Justice Lloyd.

She said in a parliamentary written answer yesterday: "The commissioner's report suggests a small number of improvements to the procedures observed dealing with these cases. Careful consideration is being given to ways of implementing these suggestions."

Interception of Communications Act, 1985, Chapter 36. Report of the Commissioner for 1987 (Stationery Office, £1.90).

Heartbreak for family



Mr and Mrs Loveday with their daughter, Susan (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

By Howard Foster

The faces of Mrs and John Loveday betrayed little emotion as they heard that their 10-year fight to win compensation for their brain-damaged daughter had failed.

Mrs Loveday admitted that although her heart had sunk as she read the judgement of Lord Justice Stuart-Smith to herself in court to the echo of the words of the judge, her thoughts were elsewhere.

"I kept wanting to be with Susan," Mrs Loveday said. "Last Saturday she had gone to a leisure centre for handicapped children and she fell and broke her knee. She had an operation to graft some bone from her hip, so it is quite serious."

"John and I just want to be with her in hospital. We would spend all day there if we hadn't had to come to court. Although Susan is 17, she knows nothing about the

proceedings and very little of our battles for her over the years and we don't particularly want her to know either."

The couple were uncertain yesterday whether the rejection of their claim that the whooping cough vaccine caused brain damage in their adopted daughter meant an end to their hopes of compensation.

Their solicitor, Mr Jack Rabinowitz, who had advised them since they began their fight almost 10 years ago, told the Lovedays that it was too early to tell.

At the very least they could go back to the government body which offers compensation to vaccine-damaged children of in their case, up to £10,000 - a far cry from the £250,000 that could have resulted, they felt, from success in the courts yesterday.

"We only wanted compensation to provide somewhere for Susan when we are no longer

able to look after her", Mrs Loveday, who works in Hackney, east London, as a lecturer in adult education, said.

"Had we won, we would have provided somewhere with the facilities to look after her. As it is, we have to go back to square one."

Susan was less than a year old when she developed a high fever after, her parents contended, vaccination against whooping cough.

Mr and Mrs Loveday have paid £2,000 towards legal fees which are expected to reach £1 million, the highest ever paid out under the legal aid scheme.

The Lovedays feel that although the interests of 200 other parents of handicapped children are resting on their case, they were very much alone in their fight.

"There is an association for these people, but when we applied to join them we got very little help", Mrs Loveday said.

Stormont meeting raises peace hopes

By David Nicholson-Lord

Hopes of renewed dialogue among Ulster's main political parties were strengthened last night after talks between Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and leaders of the Social Democratic and Labour Party.

A delegation from the mainly Roman Catholic SDLP, headed by Mr John Hume, its leader, met Mr King for two hours at Stormont and put to him what Mr Hume called a "strategy for peace in this island".

The talks on subjects understood to range from the devolution of power to the province to policing and criminal justice, are being held by Mr King, in advance of this November's review of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

A further indication of movement in the Ulster deadlock came yesterday with a warning from Mr Ken Maginnis, Official Unionist MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, that unionists would have to countenance "some form of responsibility sharing" if they were not to be outflanked by discussions forming part of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

Mr Maginnis said he believed a federal Ireland was "very much on the cards". The Northern Ireland Of-

fice, meanwhile, was faced with the embarrassing dilemma of being ordered to pay a four figure sum in damages to a leading Sinn Féin member wanted for questioning about the deaths of the two British soldiers at an IRA funeral in west Belfast.

Mr Terence "Cleeky" Clarke, aged 40, a former Maze prisoner, appeared at the High Court in Belfast on Thursday, under the noses of Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) officers. He was identified from newspaper pictures apparently showing him grappling with one of the corporals at the funeral in Andersonstown.

Mr Clarke was awarded damages, thought to be under £5,000, by the Belfast court for loss of his sense of taste and smell caused by working in dusty furniture workshops at the Maze prison in 1982.

He is one of several people being sought in the Irish Republic after allegedly fleeing south, according to informed Irish security sources. The hunt is being concentrated in the border town of Dundalk, which is known for its staunch republican sympathies.

The hunt began late last week after the RUC requested the Garda's assistance.

Growth in minority population

By David Sagsted

Ethnic minorities account for almost 5 per cent of Britain's population, according to government figures published yesterday.

The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys says the minority population is growing by almost 100,000 a year, and that the rate of increase is likely to soar in the 1990s as more than one person in three in the minority groups is aged under 16 compared with one in five among whites.

Estimates show that the number of people with family origins in the West Indies or Guyana, the Indian sub-continent, China, Africa or Arabia, more than doubled in Britain between 1971-86.

Based on the annual Labour Force Survey, the report puts the ethnic minorities population at 2,559,000 in 1986 - 52 per cent from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh compared with a white population of 51,204,000.

Buying The Times overseas: Canada \$2.75; Belgium 6 francs 50; France 10 francs; Germany 12 DM; Greece 120 dr; Hong Kong \$2.00; Ireland 100p; Italy 1,000 lire; Japan 1,000 yen; Mexico 120 pesos; New Zealand \$2.00; Norway 120 kroner; Singapore 120 dollars; South Africa 120 rand; Sweden 120 kronor; Switzerland 120 francs; Taiwan 120 dollars; USA \$2.00; Yugoslavia 120 dinars.

THE FACTS OF LIFE.

- FACT 1.** Every year, there will be fewer jobs for people without skills.
- FACT 2.** Every year, employers will need people with better training and qualifications.
- FACT 3.** Every year, computers will become more important. Soon, everyone who works will need to know how to use them.
- FACT 4.** Every year, people who leave school at 16 or 17 will have to seriously consider what they're going to do about facts 1, 2 and 3.
- FACT 5.** Every year, they have the chance to learn a skill, get work experience, off-the-job training, computer training, and get a qualification on a 2 year training programme called YTS.
- FACT 6.** Every year, the people that trained on 2 year YTS in 1988 will have a bigger advantage over those who did not.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YTS CONTACT PAUL MOORE AT THE MANPOWER SERVICES COMMISSION, FREEPOST, SHEFFIELD S3 7ZZ, OR YOUR NEAREST MSC OFFICE.

Host offer to hold parties. i

Big rise in stress. group

Jail for vicar who abused choirboys

Gang drug

Marriage law

Scots to lose a

Host offered £1,000 to hold Wimbledon parties, inquiry told

A wealthy businessman offered £1,000 in return for a neighbour's support for commercial garden parties at a Wimbledon house during last year's tennis tournament, it was alleged yesterday.

Mr Charles Rintoul, a retired schoolmaster, claims that Mr Marcus Evans offered him the cash as "compensation for noise" created by champagne parties for rich clients in marquees in the businessman's back garden.

Mr Rintoul, who lives a few doors from Mr Evans's property in Somerset Road, Wimbledon, south-west London, told the inquiry that he was approached by Evans last year about the use of his garden for garden parties for clients during Wimbledon fortnight.

Mr Evans, a director of Associated Promotions Ltd, has appealed to the Department of the Environment after Merton Council banned the use of his garden for garden parties for clients during Wimbledon fortnight.

Mr Rintoul told the department inquiry at Wimbledon Town Hall yesterday: "Mr Evans offered me £1,000 compensation in order to give him my support for his activities. He said that it was fair that I should have some compensation for the noise."

The hearing was told that when offered the money, Mr Rintoul replied: "You think that every man has his price. You can't expect me to betray my friends, can you?"

Mr Rintoul told the inquiry: "It took me a long time to decide to take the money. I was driving at 1 thought he was coming to put my mind at ease."

Neighbours complained of noise from generators, guard dogs howling in the garden and destruction caused by catering staff and guests who visited the property during Wimbledon fortnight.

Merton council maintains that Mr Evans's "commercial hospitality" was not suitable for the area and that he had not obtained planning permission for the marquees.

Mr Evans's solicitor, Mr Matthew Horton, told the inquiry that his client denied offering money to Mr Rintoul.

Merton council served an enforcement notice on Associated Promotions and Mr Evans last year to stop him from holding garden parties during the tennis tournament.

The Department of the Environment inspector, Mrs Leonora Rooze, will decide whether to uphold Mr Evans's appeal within the next few weeks.

Mr Colin Smith, a council environmental health officer, told the hearing that residents in Somerset Road had alerted his department about refuse being dumped outside Mr Evans's house during the tournament. "I was concerned about the health risk from the rubbish and I was also concerned about the commercial hospitality being given."

The hearing continues today.

Biggest, brightest butterfly of spring



Alex Dicks, aged seven, from Buxton, Derbyshire, with a 10ft by 20ft mural which was made by Chelsea School of Art at the Natural History Museum, west London, of his butterfly design. It was chosen from 100,000 entries in a competition by the BBC television programme, Blue Peter.

The mural will be on show throughout a Festival of Colour at the museum from April 1 until April 17 as part of a programme of family events, including guided tours of the National Butterfly Collection.

Police raided 68 homes in Wolverhampton, Dudley, Birmingham, Worcester and Shropshire in a video cameras on the terraces inside grounds and from unmarked cars outside grounds.

Twenty-five people appeared yesterday before special courts in Wolverhampton, charged with conspiracy to cause riot in Wolverhampton on February 27, the day of a match against Bolton. They were bailed until July 5.

Others charged with violent disorder, theft, assault and criminal damage were given bail until May 10. One man was remanded in custody charged with conspiracy to riot and threatening unlawful violence.

Big rise in student stress, group says

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Students are under too much stress, much of which is caused by the financial pressures on university funding as a whole, university counsellors say.

The counsellors' association has noticed startling increases in the past 18 months in the numbers of students visiting them for help with personal, emotional and work problems.

Many more of the students who ask for help are seriously disturbed and have to be referred for psychiatric help, according to the association.

At the Polytechnic of Central London the numbers of students seeking counselling have doubled. An independent student advice service at East Anglia University has also doubled its clientele and in Cambridge counsellors have seen a 40 per cent increase.

The same problem is seen elsewhere, with Edinburgh University reporting a 24 per cent increase in students being counselled, and London University's Goldsmiths' College and Sheffield University reporting a five-week waiting list for students seeking a meeting with a counsellor.

Miss Elsa Bell, the chairman of the Association for Student Counselling, is deeply concerned by the reports from her colleagues and has called for further study of what she said was "a considerable groundswell of misery being experienced by students".

Bungalow surveyor negligent

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

A High Court judge ruled yesterday that an estate agent and surveyor who was "unquestionably negligent" when carrying out a building society valuation on a bungalow was liable for any loss suffered by the buyers.

Mr Justice Neill said that Mr Idris Parry, of Pant, Oswestry, Shropshire, had not been absolved from liability by a building society "disclaimer" which warned the buyers that the work was not structural but was merely for valuation purposes.

It was the third similar case to go to the High Court in the last year, and the first two are to go to appeal in the Lords probably later this year.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors said that after the Lords had given a final ruling, it might be necessary to draw up a new code of practice. Surveyors may need further indemnity, which could make the house-buying process more costly.

In yesterday's case, Mr Justice Neill decided that Mr Parry had failed to notice important defects in the bungalow at Chirk Bank, Chirk, Wrexham, Clwyd, which was being bought by Mr David Davies, and his wife Joan.

When the couple moved in they found serious cracks in the walls and an "astounding" crack in the floor. Mr Parry, who contested the action, must pay costs.

Jail for vicar who abused choirboys

A vicar who sexually abused his choirboys and altar boys was jailed for seven years yesterday.

Trevor Ward, aged 35, vicar of St Agnes, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, used pornographic books to corrupt boys as young as 11. He admitted sex offences over eight years.

Ward, of Broughton Avenue, Middlesbrough, a father of two, told police he was sexually abused when he was eight and had two homosexual affairs as a theology student.

At Teesside Crown Court yesterday he admitted nine specimen charges involving sexual offences against four boys aged 12 to 19. Mr Guy Whitburn, for the prosecution, said Ward had told detectives about his homosexual affairs with many boys and men in the Teesside area.

Mr Justice Kennedy said there were features of the case which made it grave "even of its kind".

Gang leader in £1.7m drug plot gets 14 years

Francis Cook, the mastermind of an international drug smuggling gang infiltrated by two undercover agents, was jailed yesterday for 14 years.

Three members of Cook's team were also convicted at Chelmsford Crown Court of plotting to import west African cannabis worth £1.7 million.

Cook, aged 59, a restaurateur, of Craven Park Road, Harlesden, north-west London, told Judge Watling, QC: "Execution was simpler and cheaper, your honour."

Stirling Ripley, aged 35 and unemployed, of Craven Park Road, Harlesden, was jailed for 10 years. The judge called him an able first lieutenant.

Patrick Meape, aged 36, a sound engineer with the Osibisa rock band, of Christchurch Avenue, Willesden, north-west London, and Peter Bird, aged 37, a car sprayer, of Point Road, Canvey Island, Essex, were each sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

The judge told Cook: "I am quite satisfied that you were absolutely ruthless where people got in your way."

The two agents "put their lives at risk in pursuit of what they saw to be their duty", the judge said after the 51-day trial.

Cook told them shotguns would be used if anyone double-crossed the gang.

Cook was also convicted of possessing cocaine worth £6,000 with intent to supply for which he was given a concurrent six-year sentence. Another gang member, Edgar Peters, aged 41, a financial consultant, of Edgerton Court, Brompton Road, south-west London, is to be sentenced next month.

Three other men were cleared of drugs charges after the jury spent three days considering its verdicts.



For some people, a winter heating bill can be a real problem



We want to help

Gas is far and away the most popular fuel for home heating - not surprisingly, perhaps, since in the vast majority of cases it's also the cheapest.

However, heating is an important item of expense in most homes - and a small proportion of our customers have real difficulty in meeting their gas bills. Unfortunately, some of these customers never contact us about their difficulties, nor indeed respond to our many efforts (typically seven in all) to contact them - with the result that they eventually lose their gas supply.

Of course, the overwhelming majority of our 15 million domestic customers do pay their bills. Only a tiny proportion are cut off. But the pity is that, in many of these cases, disconnection could have been avoided. If customers with difficulties tell us they have a problem, we make every effort to

come to an arrangement that lets them pay off what they owe at a rate they can afford - and keep their gas supply.

British Gas has not changed its policy on paying for gas since privatisation. We comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Code of Practice drawn up in conjunction with the electricity industry. Where appropriate, we work closely with the social services - and we pay special attention to the needs of the elderly and disabled. As a commercial concern, British Gas doesn't want to lose any of its customers, but gas does have to be paid for - in everyone's interests.

Anyone having difficulty paying their gas bill should contact British Gas. We want to help in cases of genuine hardship - and we often can.

British Gas

Marriage law restrictions

Scots to lose apron strings

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

English couples are free to marry in Gretna Green without their parents' consent - but young Scots wishing to marry abroad have to ask their parents first.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, is keen to end this discrimination against his fellow Scots and is introducing a Bill which will also end a number of other anomalies affecting marriage.

The Foreign Marriage (Amendment) Bill will not stop English couples skipping across the border to marry.

It will repeal a vast array of exotic Acts governing weddings conducted abroad including the Morro Vello Marriage Act, 1867, enabling British men working in Brazil-

ian mines to marry locally and bring their brides home.

So will the Fiji Marriage Act, 1878, the Basutoland and British Bechuanaland Marriage Act, 1889, and the Marriages in Japan (Validity) Act, 1912.

An 1858 Act validated marriages in Tahiti and Ningpo, while another legalized the marriages of workers at the British factory in Hamburg.

Beneficiaries under the new law will include civilian staff accompanying the armed forces posted abroad and servicemen's children.

Lord Meston, a family lawyer, says that even under the present law which allows servicemen to marry abroad there can be problems, as he

discovered from one of his clients.

"He was, I think, serving in Belize and he woke up one morning with a hangover alongside a local lady who was clutching a certificate of marriage."

"A ceremony had undoubtedly taken place, although he had absolutely no recollection of it. He was relieved to have the marriage annulled."

Lord Meston, a Social and Liberal Democrat, has already succeeded in pushing through his own reform of the marriage laws, enabling a man to marry his mother-in-law.

The Bill is going through the House of Lords.

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PARLIAMENT

Rover gets cash and its debts are cut

The Government would make a cash injection of £800 million into Rover Group before selling its shares in the group to British Aerospace for £150 million, Lord Young of Gifford, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in the House of Lords.

In a statement repeated later by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Trade and Industry, in the Commons, Lord Young said that the Government had also agreed effectively to eliminate £1.1 billion of Rover's trading tax losses, leaving only £500 million of those losses to be claimed against Rover Group profits in future.

He said that he was fulfilling his promise to report to the House at the earliest opportunity the outcome of the discussions about British Aerospace's bid for Rover.

"I can do this today because BAE have completed their investigations satisfactorily and the negotiations have therefore been concluded and agreement reached."

"The rules of the Stock Exchange require in these circumstances that an announcement is made without delay. Today we

have entered into a conditional contract with BAE for the sale of the Government's shareholding in Rover Group.

"Before entering into the contract with BAE, we considered a number of confidential expressions of interest, but none amounted to a specific offer."

"The board of Rover Group believes that this is the best possible outcome for the group. BAE is strongly committed to the further development and growth of Rover Group, working with the existing Rover Group management who have made so much progress in improving the performance of the businesses. Honda told me that they welcomed the continuity of Rover Group management which would be assured by BAE's ownership of the company. I therefore hope that the important operational partnership between Rover Group and Honda can continue to develop satisfactorily."

"Without constraining BAE's day-to-day management of the business, we have agreed important conditions on the agreement. BAE have undertaken not to relinquish control of either Austin Rover or

Land-Rover within five years. This undertaking is supported by legal arrangements designed to ensure that it is not to their financial advantage to do so.

"During negotiations it has been impressed on me by the board of BAE that Rover Group operates in a highly competitive industry and that, notwithstanding the recovery in 1987, its current and prospective levels of profitability are insufficient to meet the interest burden on debt built up through many years of accumulated losses. The Government has been equally concerned that the merger of these two major British manufacturing groups should only move forward on a firm financial footing."

"Since 1985, when the Government became the majority owner of British Leyland, the banks have been content to advance large sums on the strength of the Government's involvement. In order that the company is not so dependent on the private sector, it is appropriate that we should deal with this accumulated indebtedness, which no company without similar backing could be expected to maintain. Of course, we would have had to

undertake this exercise whatever route had been adopted for Rover Group's privatization. The Government has therefore agreed that it will make a cash injection of £800 million into Rover Group for this purpose."

"Following agreement on these steps to strengthen the Rover Group balance sheet, we have been able to conclude an agreement to sell the Government shareholding in Rover Group for £150 million."

"We have also agreed with BAE and Rover Group arrangements whereby £1.1 billion of Rover Group's trading tax losses will be effectively eliminated, leaving only £500 million of those losses to be claimed against Rover Group profits in the future. BAE have also agreed that other currently available tax relief within Rover Group will only be applicable within that group."

"I turn now to the elimination of the Vauxhall-Marshall-Johnson parliamentary assurances relating to Rover Group's bank debts, trade creditors and other obligations. These, currently total approximately £1.6 billion."

"While Rover Group has been in public

ownership, the Government has given assurances that the obligations of the group will be met. No new obligations incurred by the Rover Group after the date of completion will benefit from the assurances. Obligations incurred between now and the completion date will cease to benefit from the assurances on completion."

"The negotiations with BAE have concerned only the Government's shareholding in Rover Group. BAE have said that following completion of their acquisition of the Government's shares, they will make separate proposals to Rover Group's minority shareholders in due course to acquire their shares. BAE have made clear that these proposals will be fair and reasonable and will be made after consultation with the Rover Group board and its advisers."

"The agreement is, of course, subject to the approval of the BAE shareholders and the completion of the normal European Community procedures. I also expect to receive the advice of the Director General of Fair Trading."

"I should like to explain what progress

there has been on the EEC implications of these plans. On March 14, we notified the EEC Commission that we proposed to deal with the necessary restructuring of Rover Group's finances. I met Commissioner Sutherland on March 23 to explain the Government's objectives and proposals. I had a further meeting with Commissioner Sutherland yesterday. The Commission have met today and have decided to open a formal state aid procedure. I am confident that the Commission will expedite their investigation."

"The agreement should bring to a successful conclusion the privatization initiative which began in earnest with the flotation of Jaguar in 1984. This process accelerated when Graham Day took office in May 1986. He has returned 48 Rover Group businesses to private ownership."

"In the hands of BAE, Rover Group would have the best chance of developing its independent role in the vehicle industry. This will strengthen Rover Group's ability to compete at home and abroad and thus benefit all those who work with and for it, as well as the economy."

Car group sale is industrial sabotage, says Opposition

The proposed sale of Rover Group to British Aerospace was roundly condemned by the Opposition when it was revealed to MPs by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Trade and Industry.

Mr Bryan Gould, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said: "The statement is a further sign that all the Government wishes to do is wash its hands of this important industry as quickly as possible with no regard for the future and the workforce or for Britain's industrial future in this vital area."

He suggested that Mr Clarke had got his seasons confused. Normally Christmas rather than Easter was the season for giving. This astonishing statement, he continued, was another sad instance in the sorry saga of this Government's long attempt to write off Britain's last remaining indigenous volume car maker at any price.

It was an act of political irresponsibility and industrial sabotage totally lacking in industrial logic or commercial sense.

Mr Clarke was giving BAE £650 million, enough to raise child benefit by £1 pound a week, to persuade them to walk away with net assets worth £770 million?

How could this crazy logic be justified even in terms of this Government's ridiculous economic calculations?

With characteristic lack of regard for the taxpayer's interests, he was writing off £1.1 billion of debt owed to the taxpayer - allowing Rover and their future owners to retain only enough tax losses to ensure that they paid no tax on any profits they made in the next few years.

Would he comment on reports that BAE would themselves reveal that they were short of cash? It was clear that BAE viewed Rover as a "cash cow" to help them over liquidity problems. Instead of their putting money into volume car manufacture, they intended to take it out.

What assurances did he have

INDUSTRY

that the investment that was desperately needed was going to be made by a cash-starved BAE? Rover's collaboration with Honda was crucial. Honda was already disenchanted and was going to become even more so when the crazy logic and conflict money basis of this deal became increasingly clear.

What assurances did he have that the EEC would complete its investigations in time or in favour of this ridiculous deal? And what assurances could he give on the future of this vital British industry?

Mr Clarke said that since 1976, when the company was brought into public ownership, the taxpayer had had to pay £2.9 billion to cover the company's losses.

As for BAE looking at this as a "cash cow", he assumed that this was Mr Gould's description of BAE's commercial judgement that this company was a good, long-term investment for which they could earn profits in the future.

There was no reason to cast doubt on Honda's reaction to the deal. He had sounded them out and they were content for their important involvement with Rover Group to continue. Mr Gould was irresponsible to cast doubt on that.

This was a good day for the taxpayer to see the end of the Vauxhall-Marshall-Johnson assurances and the extinguishing of these tax losses. It was a good day for the group and its workers that a company such as BAE had wanted to bid for it.

As for sabotage, Mr Gould had a brass neck when, over long-term two weeks, the activities of the trade union and Labour movement had sabotaged 1,000 new jobs in Dundee.

Mr Kenneth Warren (Hastings and Rye, C) congratulated Mr Clarke because what BAE and Rover had done was what together as General Motors, Ford and Boeing had done in the United States to strengthen the production, manufacturing and technology available to a combined group to compete worldwide.

Could he be sure that there was no pay-off in terms of BAE problems in financing the Airbus?

Mr Clarke said that the judgement made by the BAE management was in line with that of other successful companies in other parts of the world. There was nothing unique in an arrangement between an aerospace company and a vehicle manufacturer such as this.

There was "no hidden deal" behind his statement.

Mr Hal Miller (Bromsgrove, C) said that he welcomed the early announcement of the deal to relieve the uncertainty, but asked whether, out of the dowry going with Rover, the Government had sought any commitment about the replacement of the Metro, which accounted for two-fifths of the company's sales and was its only car in the top-selling bracket in the country.

Mr Clarke said that British Aerospace looked upon the acquisition as a long-term investment and was committed to the maintenance and development of the present business of the group in the longer term.

"It would be quite wrong for the Government to impose particular restraints and commitments on the management of the group when it comes to make its own decisions about the future of the business."

Mr David Nellist (Coventry South-East, Lab) said that the statement was the equivalent of Westminster council's sale of three cemeteries for 3p each.

What could Mr Clarke say to give confidence to Rover, given that BAE had announced plans to reduce its costs by one-fifth in two years and by one-third in a further two years.

As both companies were vulnerable in their export markets to the falling dollar, what guarantee of jobs could be given to Rover workers?

Given the increased tendency to "sweating" in Ford, Jaguar and Land Rover, the car workers' trade unions would have to strengthen their organizations to prepare for the battles ahead.

Mr Clarke said that BAE was in a highly competitive market so plans to hold down their costs



'Christmas is early this year'

After Lord Young of Gifford (above) announced the sale of the Rover Group to British Aerospace in the House of Lords, Lord Williams of Elvel, the Opposition's chief trade and industry spokesman in the Lords, described it as "an act of desperation". "The British Aerospace shareholders will no doubt think that Christmas has come rather early this year."

Just as Mr Graham Day, the head of the Rover Group, said that the car manufacturer was turning the corner, it was being sent to the knacker's yard. "The Government has no faith in Rover's future - we have. And we wish the Government would

and remain competitive must be welcome.

"The guarantee of jobs that he seeks cannot be given, except in the context of looking for jobs to be assured by continued success in the market place."

The need was not for union organizations to be strengthened, but for union attitudes to come up to date with the late 1980s.

"They must recognize that their attitudes to Ford is a way to setting the car industry going backwards in this country and not going forward."

about the deal straight away."

Lady Sear, deputy leader of the SLD peers, said that her party had been critical of the Government's selling-off of the family silver. "We are even more critical of it for giving away the family silver, even if the silver at this occasion is somewhat tarnished."

Lord Young said the Government was putting right the overdraft, which it would have had to do before putting Rover into the private sector.

He realized that the sale might well have an effect on the EEC's competition policy.

But the losses had long since been incurred and would have to be paid off one day in any event.

Two Labour peers queried the legality of the deal and on what mandate did the Government have the right to sell-off a public company.

Lord Young replied that it was a public company although it had about 60,000 to 80,000 outside shareholders. Success in the last two elections gave the Government the basis to take this action as the process of privatization had hardly been a closely guarded secret.

Mr Michael Grylls (North West Surrey, C) said that paying over £800 million to get the car maker off the hook of the £1.6 billion guarantee. "The taxpayer should be rejoicing and we should be wishing the company well in the future."

Mr Clarke said that £3 billion had been spent by the taxpayer in recovering losses, which could have been put to other uses. "We are getting rid of all kinds of liabilities for the taxpayer."

Mr Michael Heseltine (Hemel Hempstead, C) said that it was a remarkable achievement for a

privatized company - British Aerospace - to encourage first Royal Ordnance and now Rover into the private sector.

"In writing out the contingent liability, we are saving potential damage to the taxpayer, and in recognizing that the fortunes of this company are bound to be significantly improved in the private sector, we are now certain that that company will continue to expand, as it has done since it was first privatized."

Mr Clarke said that a very powerful manufacturing group was emerging, entirely composed of what were previously fairly unsuccessful industries.

Mr Terry Davis (Birmingham, Hodge Hill, Lab) asked how BAE, which had needed Government help to fund the Airbus, could find the money to fund new developments in the Rover Group. What estimates had been given by BAE about future job levels in Rover?

Mr Clarke said that the launch aid for the Airbus had not been a subsidy and would be repaid by the company. The future for Rover jobs depended on the company's remaining competitive.

report by the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, would she also read the reports by the Policy Studies Institute and Oxford University showing the impact of the Government's social security cuts on the sick, the disabled, the elderly and the unemployed?

Or would she withdraw funding from the Citizens' Advice Bureaux, the Policy Studies Institute and Oxford University (Labour laughter)?

Mr Thatcher: Or perhaps Mr Archer and the Labour Party will move a motion to cancel all the increases? Or don't they, in their heart of hearts, believe they are far better for the overwhelming majority?

Mr Peter Archer (Warley West, Lab) said that when Mrs Thatcher found time to read the

"There is in the system a disincentive to register to vote of the kind which makes the poll tax an enemy of the democratic process."

Mr Lang said that in a half-hour meeting between the Secretary of State and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, the subject of the community charge had not been raised once. That was a measure of Scottish councils' concern.

The Labour Party was seeking to gum up the works by suggesting that forms should be returned with real or bogus queries as to the "responsible person" who should supply the information.

But it was clear that in the vast majority of cases, about 80 per cent, this would be the owner-occupier or tenant-occupier, what had formerly been called the head-of-household.

The motion was rejected by 301 votes to 211 - Government majority, 90.

Jobless figures 'worth nothing'

An allegation by the Opposition that the Government figures on unemployment "were scarcely worth the paper they were written on" was dismissed by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, during Commons questions.

He said that the UK unemployment rate in January was 9.4 per cent, compared with 10.4 per cent in the European Community as a whole.

"Over the past year, our unemployment rate has fallen faster than in any other industrial country and is now lower than many of our European competitors including France, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands."

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said that Mr Fowler should note that the number of unemployed today was still 3,329,000 on the counting basis used by all previous governments, including Conservative ones, nearly three times the level this Government had inherited.

RCN praised by Thatcher

The decision by the Royal College of Nursing to reaffirm its no-strike policy was welcomed by Mrs Thatcher during question time. Asked by Mr James Arbuthnot (Wansford and Woodford, C) about the decision, Mrs Thatcher said it had been a most encouraging result.

That policy had been the reason why the Royal College of Nursing had been given a pay review body and the Government's faith in them had been abundantly rewarded by the decision taken.

Rugby tour is attacked

Mr David Steel, joint leader of the SLD, asked Mrs Thatcher during Prime Minister's question time, whether she would confirm her opposition to a proposal that a British rugby team should visit South Africa.

Mrs Thatcher said that the Government stood by the Gleneagles Agreement which discouraged teams from going to South Africa. The English Rugby Union was trying to dissuade players from going.

Penalty fares for BR

British Rail calculates that it loses about £34 million a year from people travelling without paying their fare, Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, said in a written reply.

That was why, he said, the Government was supporting a British Rail private Bill to introduce a system of penalty fares.

Two agree

Asked during Prime Minister's question time to make clear that there was no difference between herself and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mrs Thatcher said that that was correct. Both put downward pressure on inflation as top priority and both agreed that a stable exchange rate could be useful to industry.

Bill passed

The Education Reform Bill was read a third time in the Commons on Monday night by 323 votes to 224 - Government majority, 99.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Housing (Scotland) Bill, completion of remaining stages. Merchant Shipping Bill, remaining stages. Lords (2.30): Debates on space policy and on architecture.

Fierce Kinnock-Thatcher row over changes in benefit

The effects of changes in the social security system on the sick and the elderly were hotly disputed at Prime Minister's question time.

Each shouting to be heard above the noise, Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, spoke of weekly losses of up to £18, while Mrs Thatcher maintained that the overwhelming majority of people would gain.

Mr Kinnock said that Citizens' Advice Bureaux case studies on the effects of "her social security cuts" showed that a single pensioner home owner would lose £2 a week; a pensioner couple claiming income support could lose up to £18 a

week; a pensioner on dialysis would lose £17 a week; and someone caring for a doubly incontinent pensioner claiming attendance allowance would lose £14 a week.

"Is that the way to treat sick and elderly people in the Britain of 1988 (Labour cheers)?"

Mrs Thatcher said that if he was referring to a recent CAB press release, it had been based on a belief that there was a difference between the time when supplementary benefit was changed and the time when income support and the increase in pensions benefit came into effect. That was not in fact so.

Mr Kinnock asked why she would not answer any specific

questions about social security. Why was she dodging the issue by talking about press releases when she knew he was referring to specific case studies of real people?

Mrs Thatcher said she had assumed he had been talking about a recent CAB press release which had been based on a misunderstanding.

The overwhelming majority of people would gain from improved social security benefits from April 11, but some on housing benefit would not because of the different arrangements when regard to capital.

It was absolutely futile to suggest that this Government did not look after the needs of

PRIME MINISTER

people on social security - (Labour protests) - because not only was it spending £44 billion on it but there was also an increase of £2 billion this coming year.

Mr Kinnock said that was all very well, but sick and elderly people still stood to lose £14, £17 and £18 a week in large numbers. "Let me ask her again: does she think that is the way to treat anyone in this country (Labour cheers)?"

Mrs Thatcher: The overwhelming majority of people will gain from the increases in

pensions and disablement benefit and sickness benefit.

She said that, apart from housing benefit, those who did not gain would be protected in the transition. Their cash values would be protected. For those on housing benefit, it was right that those who had £6,000 should not be eligible.

Mr Kinnock said that the Prime Minister did not even understand her own policies. According to her own Government's figures, 60 per cent of claimants would lose because of the structural changes. There were no transitional arrangements for new payments.

"Will she now tell the people of Britain: does she think people

on dialysis, old age pensioners or single home owners should be losing money at all?"

Mrs Thatcher said that an extra £2 billion was being spent on social security in total next year. Mr Kinnock had referred to dialysis, but far more people were receiving dialysis now.

He had referred to 60 per cent of people losing. She thought he was referring to the CAB press release which had been seriously misleading because it got the date of the benefit uprating wrong. "Everybody in this country is doing far better than they were in 1979."

Mr Peter Archer (Warley West, Lab) said that when Mrs Thatcher found time to read the

report by the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, would she also read the reports by the Policy Studies Institute and Oxford University showing the impact of the Government's social security cuts on the sick, the disabled, the elderly and the unemployed?

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The motion was rejected by 301 votes to 211 - Government majority, 90.

Urban renewal plan for Scots

Initiatives for urban regeneration, particularly for estates on the outskirts of Scottish cities, were announced by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland.

He said that a document entitled *New Life for Urban Scotland* was being published setting out Government plans for important initiatives.

The Government was announcing approval of 225 urban programme projects worth £8.9 million. Scottish Homes was soon to be created as an important housing agency which would work alongside the Scottish Development Agency (SDA) in pursuing urban regeneration.

"In addition, we are announcing today that £25 million is being specifically earmarked next year for new housing-related urban regeneration initiatives. This replaces the original figure of £12 million."

With so much already happening (loud Labour laughter) - the Government's first aim was to sustain the momentum.

SCOTLAND

But this was not enough. Over the next 10 years a new priority must be given to tackling the problems of outlying city estates.

"The Government will therefore establish a number of initiatives which will simultaneously pursue economic, environmental, housing and social objectives in peripheral estates."

Four new initiatives would be located in Castlemilk (Glasgow), Ferguslie Park (Paisley), Wester Hailes (Edinburgh) and Whitfield (Dundee), subject to consultation with local authorities and other bodies.

Partnerships would be required for taking forward these initiatives, involving the local community, the Government, the SDA, Scottish Homes, the local authorities, the private sector, the health boards, the MSC and others.

"We expect these new initiatives will make a major

contribution to tackling the characteristic problems of urban decay and will set a pattern for urban regeneration in Scotland into the 1990s.

"The work of urban renewal in Scotland, however, will extend more widely than these outlying estates and the policies which we have set out are aimed at bringing new life to cities and towns throughout Scotland."

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that after all the advance publicity and public relations "hype", the statement came as a sad anti-climax.

There was little hope for those struggling with the effects of social deprivation, the statement took the position no further forward. It dealt in banal generalities. All that had been given was a gathering of the brigade of the past in an attempt to give the impression of generosity.

What new money was included? Glasgow's share would be £11 million, but all of that

would be found by the sale of assets, not a penny would come from the Government.

Capital expenditure for housing in the public sector would fall between 1987-88 and 1988-89 from £556 million to £505 million. The one specific addition to be detected from the document was the announcement of £13 million for urban regeneration, but that still left in effect a cut of £38 million between this year and next year.

The Secretary of State had boasted about the role of the private sector, but there was not a name to be seen, no figures and unlike the Chancellor of the Duchy, Mr Rifkind could not even promised breakfast with entrepreneurs.

Mr Rifkind said that the Opposition had said they would welcome any new initiative which sought to work with the local community and to provide a partnership between private and public sectors which would lead to proper provision for the problems. That was exactly what was in the statement.

Labour MPs who suggested that community charge questionnaires should be put in the dustbins were accused of flirting with lawlessness in a Commons debate late on Monday.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dumfriesshire West, Lab) had told the House that if constituents asked him for guidance he would tell them to put the questionnaire in the wastepaper basket.

And Mr Brian Wilson (Cunningham North, Lab), leader of the "Stop It" anti-community charge campaign, said that the forms would end up in a million dustbins.

Mr Ian Lang, Minister of State for Scotland, said that the Opposition were flirting with lawlessness.

Opening the debate, Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that the poll tax would mean the installation in every household in Scotland of a tax gatherer as an ally for an unwanted system.

He was calling for the revocation of the Community Charges (Registration) (Scotland) Regulations, which, he said, would form the basis for the administration of the system in Scotland.

It was almost certain that the order had been defectively drafted, he said, and there were doubts as to whether one of the schedules was ultra vires. It was an indication of the bunker mentality of the Scottish Office that it would not take the order away and draft it again.

The complications and complexities of the system as set out in the order were its own worst enemy.

"In these complexities there is a threat to privacy and a real danger that individual liberties will be undermined. The order should be taken away."

"We now know it to be true that the whole starting point of the system is going to be the electoral roll."

cut

On the EEC implications of...
On March 14, we notified the...
necessary restructuring of...
On March 23 to explain the...
the objectives and proposed...
meeting with the Commission...
yesterday. The Commission...
and have decided to open...
aid procedure. I am confident...
Commission will expedite the...
agreement should bring to a...
conclusion the privatisation...
which began in earnest with...
of Jaguar in 1986. This process...
when Graham Day took office...
He has returned 18 Rover...
concerns to private ownership.

Jobless
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RCN praise
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Rugby tour
is attacked

Penalty fares
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Two agree

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Demand for skill is raising managers' pay in boom towns

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Britain's economic and industrial engine has moved into a high gear, according to a new study, which says management pay in the West Midlands and the North-west is rising faster than anywhere else in the country.

The demand for skilled, experienced and good managers increasing daily, is likely to go on forcing up the salaries of many groups, the report says.

A survey of 798 companies throughout the country shows that although managers in the West Midlands and the North-west are still being paid less than the national average, the trend is narrowing the gap. Average basic rises during the past year of between 6.8 per cent and 7.6 per cent have outstripped the national average of 6 per cent.

The news comes a week after the same organization, Reward Group, which specializes in cost-of-living statistics, reported an upsurge in house prices in the Midlands, which reflects the return of confidence and activity to the region.

rating to companies, to reflect characteristics found in successful companies no matter where they operate. The more stars a company has the more successful it is likely to be.

The survey was undertaken before the Budget, but says it did not think the uplift in tax would affect the number of people being allocated a company car. Some 74.4 per cent of senior managers (those immediately below director level) receive a company car, compared with 71.5 per cent a year ago.

The average graduate recruitment salary is now £8,500, but the pay of those who stay with a company rises more quickly than that of other employees. Many companies, the report says, review salaries for new graduates at six-monthly intervals, and after a cautious start, this leads to an average rise in the second year of 16.2 per cent. Graduates near the end of their second year will be earning about £10,000. The survey gives a top five and bottom five list for managers' pay in different professions or industries.

The list is based on the

percentage of their pay higher than the national average for their particular rank: legal adviser (+27.5%); advertising/public relations (+19.7%); chief scientist (+10%); financial controller (+8.7%) and marketing manager (+7.8%).

Lowest: chief surveyor (-9.4%); works manager (-8.8%); management services (-8%); quality assurance (-6.9%) and chief engineer (-6.3%).

Job opportunities during the next three months are the brightest for the second quarter of any year since 1974, according to a Manpower survey.

Led by manufacturing industry - again offering a better outlook for job increases than services or the public sector - the trend moves into its fourth consecutive quarter with many more employers planning to recruit people than to dismiss them.

Reward Salary and Cost of Living Report (The Reward Group, 1 Mill Street, Stone, Staffs ST15 8BA; £95).

The Manpower Survey of Employment Prospects, 1st Quarter 1988 (Manpower House, 270-272 High Street, Slough, Berks, SL1 1LJ; free).

MPs toeing the marathon line



Six Labour MPs and a Conservative in training yesterday for the London Marathon on April 17 (left to right): Douglas Henderson, Labour, Newcastle upon Tyne North; Dennis Canavan, Labour, Falkirk West; Rhodri Morgan, Labour, Cardiff West; Alan Michael, Labour, Cardiff South and Penarth; Dick Douglas, Labour, Dumfries and Galloway; and John McFall, Labour, Dumfries and Galloway. A Conservative, Keighley, is also present. (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

New hope for 400 Opren claimants

A High Court judge yesterday opened the way for more than 400 further damages claims against the American manufacturers of the anti-arthritis drug Opren over alleged side-effects.

Mr Justice Hirst announced that a scheme had been set up for the fresh claims which were too late for the group action that brought a £2.275 million settlement offer from Eli Lilly. That offer, representing less than £2,000 for each claimant, had been accepted by the "vast majority" of the 1,400 original claimants, the judge said.

Late claimants must have issued a writ or applied for legal aid before the beginning of this week to be eligible.

But the judge said they might still be too late as an action must be brought within three years of the event believed to have caused the problem.

It was "almost certain" that in each of the new cases more than three years had passed since the claimant last took the drug, which was withdrawn nearly six years ago. However even though Eli Lilly must register any objection to a claim being barred by statute within 21 days of receiving a writ, the question of whether it could go ahead was a matter for the court's discretion.

Dental research conference

Dentists afraid to treat Aids carriers

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Many dentists are reluctant, because of fear and ignorance, to treat patients carrying the Aids virus, a dental research conference in Belfast was told yesterday.

The evidence from four studies suggests that some patients with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are discriminated against, contrary to Department of Health guidelines. The bias is more likely to occur among older and more conservative-minded dentists.

So far, no dentist or surgery assistant has been infected by a patient anywhere in Britain, yet many in the profession refer HIV positive patients to specialist units rather than treat them themselves, the research shows.

Some dentists seem more concerned about losing patients if it became known that they had treated someone with the virus, Mr Nigel Pitts, of the dental health services research unit at Dundee University, told the conference.

He said that in a survey of more than 1,000 Scottish dentists, only 36 per cent said that they would treat one of their regular patients who became HIV positive.

In another survey, in the Greater Manchester area, nine out of 10 dentists aged over 36

said they believed that all such patients should be treated in specialist units, a view shared by only four out of 10 younger dentists.

Two out of three dentists in a further study in the same area were in favour of such referrals. "This is contrary to guidelines from the Department of Health and the British Dental Association which say people with HIV should be treated in their own area by their own dentist", one of the researchers, Miss Julie Elliott, said.

Some dentists and surgery assistants feared catching the virus from saliva, sneezing or normal physical contact although there was an absence of evidence that transmission occurred in any of those ways. "A substantial proportion of dentists and an even higher proportion of surgery assistants need more or better training and education about infection risks", Miss Elliott, of Manchester University's oral health and development department, said.

The evidence was presented yesterday at the joint meeting of the British Society for Dental Research and the Irish division of the International Association for Dental Research. The three-day conference at Queen's University, Belfast, ends today.

Puzzle of paternal link with fear of treatment

Boys who are afraid of the dentist are more likely to have fathers who had their own unpleasant experiences in the surgery, according to research published yesterday.

A study in Liverpool found no such link between mothers of sons and daughters who suffer anxiety in the dentist's chair, or between fathers and anxious daughters.

The findings have puzzled researchers trying to find out why some children are uncooperative or unhappy during routine treatment.

Parents of the children gave researchers examples of their own painful experiences during treatment. "Close ma-

ternal bonding has always been considered as a primary guiding influence on both boys and girls", the researchers from Liverpool University school of dental surgery said.

"However our results suggest that there is a very significant relationship in those fathers with clinical dislikes when they have dentally anxious sons."

The researchers offered no explanation for the link. However, Dr Martin Downer, chief medical officer at the Department of Health and Social Security, said: "Quite a lot of children enjoy visits to the dentist. Parents can be amazed by how much their children like the experience."

Buffer zone will save rain forest wildlife

By Andrew Morgan

The British arm of the World Wildlife Fund launched an appeal yesterday to save the Korup tropical rain forest in Cameroon, west Africa.

It could prove a model for other schemes to combat exploitation of such endangered areas.

Conservationists throughout the world are looking intensely at the work which, in liaison with the Cameroon government, has created an agricultural buffer zone of some one million acres around the core of the Korup, which is about the size of Greater London and supports one thousand people.

Hunting and settlement threatens that core, which teems with wildlife and plant species. In the new buffer zone, sustainable hunting would be allowed and there would be controlled agriculture, fishing and forestry.

The British Government has given £500,000 to the project and the wildlife charity

launched an appeal for £2.5 million over five years to help its campaign. Scientists intend to improve amenities in the buffer zone and encourage the hunters to move out.

Mr Clive Wickes, the Korup project manager, said: "Ideally, by the year 2000, people will have left the core area."

Chemicals are being developed commercially from rain forest plants for use as contraceptives and aphrodisiacs to provide alternative income for the hunters.

An ecological approach to urban planning was vital to a healthy future, the first UK Healthy Cities conference was told yesterday in Liverpool.

Dr Tjeerd Deelstra, of the Department of Environmental Planning and Design at Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands, said waste products should be recycled and natural sources of energy - sun, wind and water - should be used as much as possible.

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Vogue



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LOW TARP... STOPPING SMOKING REDUCES THE RISK OF SERIOUS DISEASES... H.M. Government... H.M. Department of Health... Chief Medical Officers

Vital Under King's... As the first part of the... looks at... second task... The inquiry... today.

Vital Underground tunnel still locked every evening — four months after fire killed 31 King's Cross totally unready for blaze disaster

As the first part of the King's Cross disaster inquiry is completed today, *Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent*, assesses the evidence given and looks at some likely areas for consideration when the inquiry turns to its second task — that of recommending ways to prevent such disasters.

Evidence presented during the past eight weeks to the official inquiry into the King's Cross fire, in which 31 people died, has disclosed a horrifying picture of a London Underground station almost totally unprepared to deal with the disaster which overwhelmed it on November 18.

Although individuals behaved energetically, sensibly and often bravely, there was no sense, certainly in the early stages before the fire brigade arrived, of people applying known and practised procedures. Everything seemed to turn on the ability of individuals to improvise.

Staff had little or no knowledge of evacuation procedures, many had only the sketchiest training in fire-fighting. Few seemed to know how to operate the water-fog fire extinguishing system on the escalators and it failed to work when they did try. There was confusion over how to switch off the electricity supply to the escalators.

Firemen and police at the foot of the escalators did not know how to communicate with the surface and were for a time suspected of being deaf. When the fire brigade arrived there was no one to guide them to the fire and the ambulance service was unable to contact its two most senior officers, although it is unlikely that affected the service's operations.

The cause of the fire may never be established, although the evidence suggests a lighted match dropped on the escalator is the probable cause. Underground staff and emergency services were unlucky in several respects:

● A not too serious fire changed into an inferno with a speed and ferocity which even experienced firefighters had not seen before.

● Fire engines at Euston Road, barely three minutes away, were already out on a false alarm. Valuable minutes were lost in bringing appliances from further afield.

● Station Officer Colin Townsley, the first officer in charge at the fire was killed. When other officers arrived to take command there was no one to give them a full picture.

These misfortunes and all the bravery and improvisation of individuals, cannot conceal the fact that grave defects were exposed in emergency arrangements at King's Cross.

For about 15 minutes between the fire being detected and its catastrophic explosion into the ticket hall, there was no sustained attempt to put it out.

A fire hydrant was blocked by a builder's work, another hydrant was located only with difficulty and its equipment was found to be incomplete. A potentially vital emergency exit was locked and nearly half an hour passed before keys were found.

It may be that, as one senior source close to the inquiry has said, King's Cross was a "black hole", with no one

aware of how inadequate safety arrangements were. But it gives rise to the question whether there are other black holes, or indeed, whether the whole of the deep tunnel system is a black hole.

The tragic nature of the investigation has been underlined by the fact that in nearly 200 hours of hearings there has been virtually no humour, a fact emphasized by the sepulchral tones of some of the lawyers, but the inquiry has been enlivened by the occasional vignette, ranging from the poignant to the incongruous.

There were the policeman and the fireman who were feared to be dead but who, having done what they thought they could and being unable to get back to the surface, paused for a cigarette.

There were the two London Underground employees taking an unofficially extended meal break, which meant there were only two ticket collectors on duty. They found themselves trapped in a messroom just off the burning ticket hall for two hours, and comforted themselves by drinking vodka and wine.

There was the woman who struggled through asphyxiating smoke and collapsed at the foot of some stairs, thinking herself "a goner". She "had a little word with God", saying "I don't really want to die yet". She then struggled up the stairs and to her astonishment found she had escaped.

Issues which will attract comment when Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, produces his report on the disaster, include:

Vital minutes

Only three minutes elapsed between the arrival of the first fire brigade unit and the flashover at 19.45. This gave firefighters no chance to assess the situation, run out their hoses and suppress the fire.

Mr Gerald Clarkson, Chief Officer of London Fire Brigade, spoke of "three unforgiving minutes", and said that had his men had two or three more minutes the flashover could have been prevented. The evidence suggests that those extra minutes could have been available.

First reports of a small fire on the Piccadilly Line escalator were made to London Underground staff at about 19.30. But London Underground had a two-stage procedure, which involved assessing whether a reported fire was one which the staff could tackle themselves. So the first alarm was made not by London Underground staff but by a British Transport policeman, who called his headquarters at 19.32. The call was passed on with a 999 call to the brigade at 19.35.

It was 19.42 when the first appliance from Soho, more than a mile away, arrived.

It seems entirely possible that had the fire brigade been called the instant the fire was noticed, and had the Euston appliances been available, the

unforgiving three minutes would have been used to fight the fire.

The evacuation

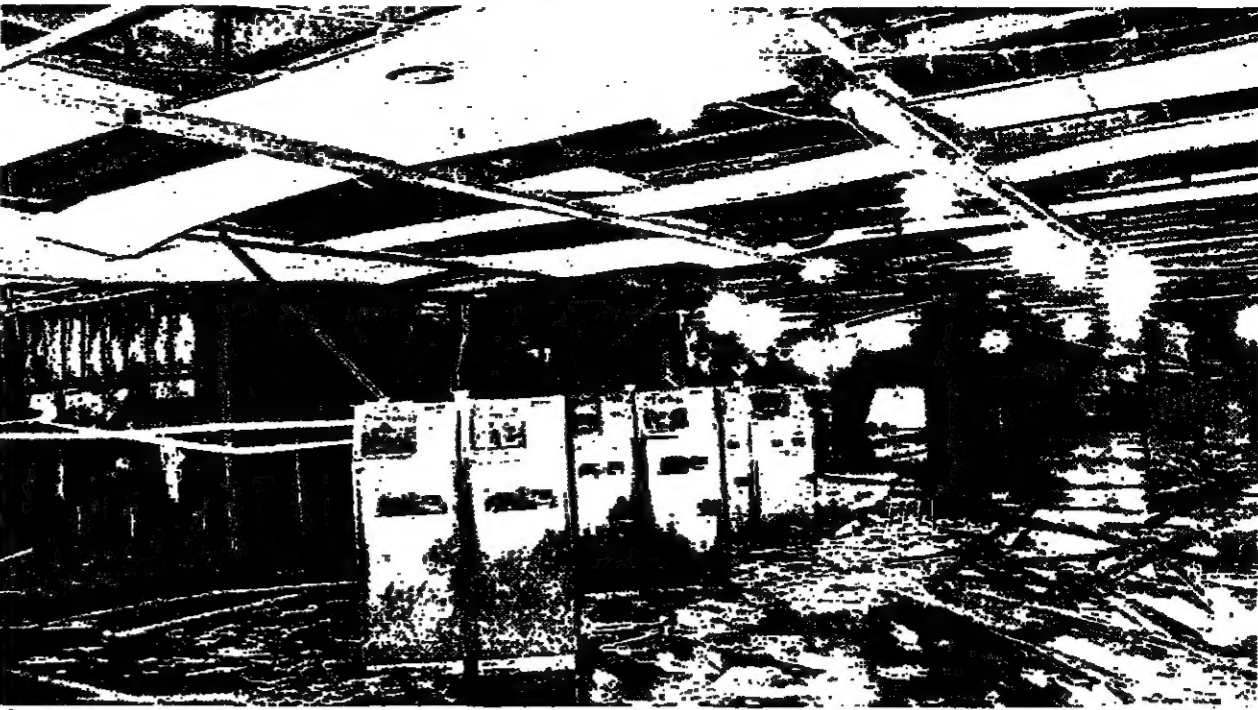
British Transport police constables, with no officer in charge, endeavoured to seize control of the situation.

By 19.36 police and Underground staff were directing passengers away from the Piccadilly Line escalators, where the fire was, towards the Victoria Line escalators.

Although the fire was still confined to a few treads of the escalator, the flames and smoke were getting worse and the constables decided to evacuate the station.

At 19.40 a policeman, trying to halt the flood of passengers into the station, asked that trains on the Piccadilly and Victoria Lines should not stop there. But at 19.44, one minute before the flashover, a Piccadilly Line train stopped and about 50 people alighted.

At 19.45 the flashover occurred. People in the ticket hall were either killed or injured. Others still coming up the Victoria Line escalator turned and ran back down, but some continued into the ticket hall.



The Underground ticket hall at King's Cross, gutted when the fire "flashed" up the escalator (Photograph: Chris Harris).

and had to run blindly through black smoke to get up to the fresh air at the exits.

Shortly after this, trains which had been instructed to go through non-stop were waved down so that passengers could be rescued. It has been said that by sending passengers up the Victoria

Line escalator, which leads to the same concourse as the burning escalator, police were sending people to their deaths.

Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel to the inquiry, said their decisions were "comprehensible and rational". The fire was apparently a safe distance away.

The subway

King's Cross Underground station should have one enormous advantage when an evacuation is necessary. There is a subway from close to the end of the Victoria Line platforms which emerges in British Rail's Midland City station in Pentonville Road,

well away from the Underground station.

It is a natural exit route in an emergency. Unfortunately it was barred by two gates, locked — in accordance with routine — at 19.10.

The subway has an important advantage in that it is a spacious passageway, two to

three times wider than an escalator. Every stride along this subway would have carried passengers further away from the fire.

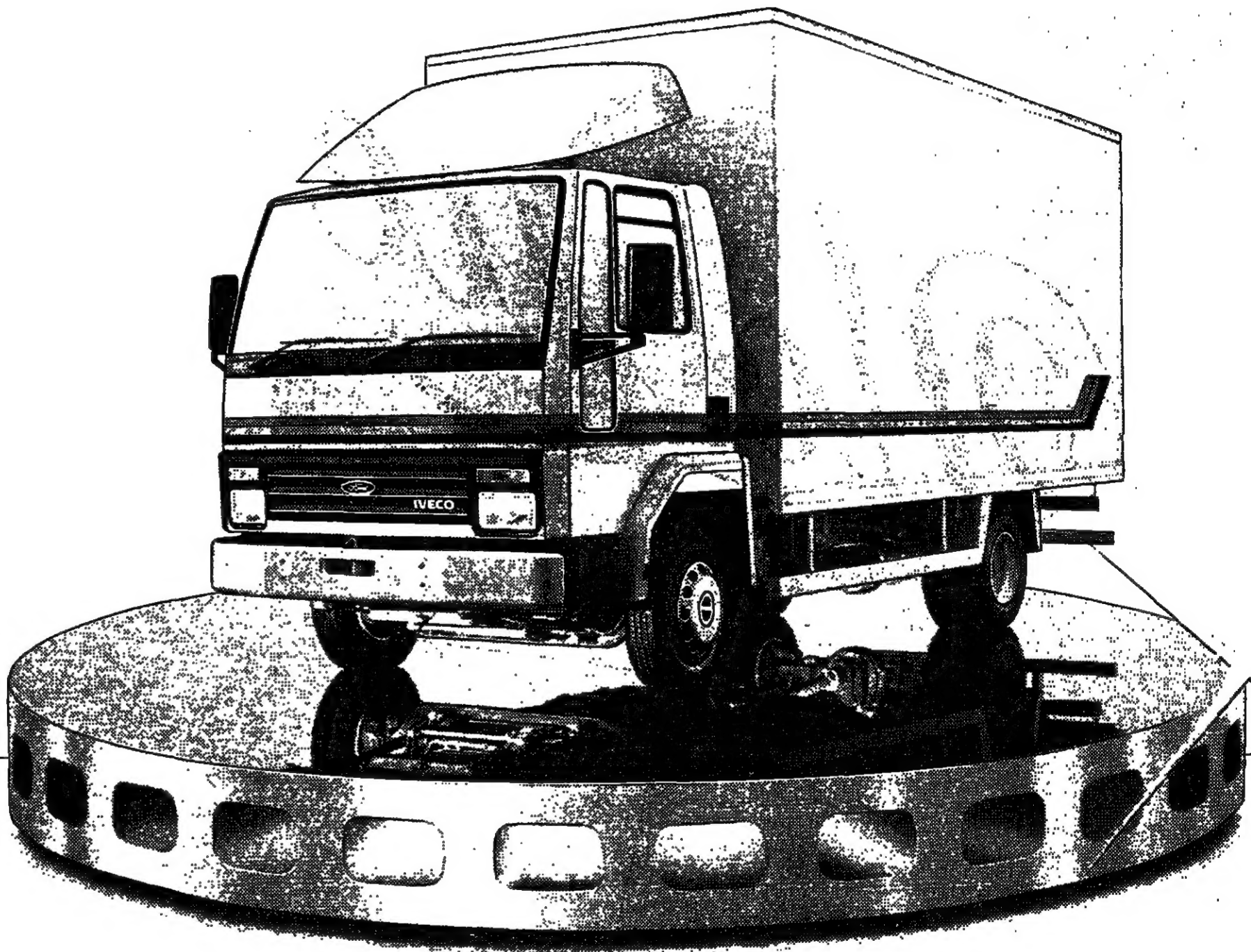
The subway would also have enabled firefighters to attack the blaze from below, where conditions were much easier.

The first attempt to use the subway was made by two police officers between 19.40 and 19.45, about the time of the flashover.

At 20.00, two constables tried to lead Mr Richard Bates, a severely burnt passenger, out through the subway but had to wait for a key to be found for the Underground gates. Then they encountered gates locked at the British Rail end. Between 20.10 and 20.17 (accounts differ) these gates were opened. It had taken about 30 minutes to get Mr Bates to an ambulance.

It was not until at least 20.45, an hour after they had first arrived at King's Cross, that firemen entered the Underground by way of the Midland City subway.

The gates are still routinely locked in the evening and for much of the weekend. There are no signs to say where keys may be obtained, or giving a telephone number to call, and there are no emergency keys displayed which could be got at by smashing a piece of glass.



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Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, who chairs the inquiry.



Mr Gerald Clarkson: "three unforgiving minutes".

Trains in tunnel 'blew on flames'

Trains running through King's Cross Tube station below a burning escalator would have had the effect of "blowing on a fire", pushing the flames into the ticket hall above, the disaster inquiry was told yesterday.

Air pushed up the escalator shaft by trains in tunnels would have caused "substantial deflection of the flames" towards the top of the shaft, Dr John Marshall, a consultant scientist specializing in fires, said.

It would have had "the normal consequence of blowing on a fire, to increase the intensity. It would have an accelerating effect on the growth of the fire."

Dr Marshall, a fire safety consultant to the Dartford and Mersey tunnels, was called by Proderite, the company which made special paint used on the ceiling of the escalator shaft.

Mr Simon Tuckey, QC, counsel for Proderite, asked if the speeding of fire growth would also have produced "a sudden displacement" of heat production into the ticket hall, where 31 people died. Dr

Marshall said: "That is a second effect of the air flow".

Of a "jet of flame" seen coming from the escalator shaft and hitting the ticket hall ceiling, Dr Marshall said: "I think train movement could have been a contributory factor, but I don't think it would have caused it on its own. An additional air flow from train movement would have contributed to an emission of flame from the top of the escalator."

He agreed that burning of paint on the ticket hall ceiling — not supplied by Proderite — would have added to the fire and the setting ablaze of the wooden ticket office, whose Melamine cladding produced cyanide which killed many of the victims.

Dr Marshall said, however, that he believed burning of the Proderite paint on the escalator shaft ceiling "must have lagged some way behind" the spread of flames from the burning wooden escalator.

The inquiry continues today.

Which One Is NEC?


A black and white illustration of a hand holding a smartphone. The screen of the phone displays the text "It's a boy" in a simple, sans-serif font. The hand is rendered in a stylized, high-contrast manner, with the fingers gripping the phone. The background is plain white.



compatible.

*IBM is a registered trademark of International Business Machines Corporation.

business humming along.

A black and white illustration of a hand pulling a file folder out of a filing cabinet. The cabinet is shown in a three-quarter view, with the drawer open. The folder has a circular handle and a small rectangular label. The hand is shown from the side, with fingers gripping the folder.

Everton Football Club of the English League.

The logos for Everton F.C., N.F.C., and the Davis Cup by NEC are displayed in the top left corner. The Davis Cup logo is a shield-shaped emblem with a trophy inside, and the text "DAVIS CUP by NEC" is written below it.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Cross assault
Cypriot leads

The Psofida area of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus was hit by a cross assault by Greek Cypriot forces and the Turkish army. The Psofida area was hit by a cross assault by Greek Cypriot forces and the Turkish army. The Psofida area was hit by a cross assault by Greek Cypriot forces and the Turkish army.

Law chief Meets
resigns aides

Deputy Attorney General, after a meeting with the President, announced that he would resign. The Deputy Attorney General, after a meeting with the President, announced that he would resign.

British pledge to

Democrats flaw Jackson

[illegible]

Rough diamond
smooth £15m

A 600-carat rough stone, which is expected to yield the largest faceted stone in existence, was unveiled to the public for the first time recently by De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited.

The rough stone, which is the largest diamond ever found in the famous mines of the west, was shown in all that the company has ever produced. It is the original rough stone which was cut into 100 carats of diamonds between 1871 and 1914.

Photographs and photographs were kept behind a glass barrier as the diamond was shown and laid out in a display case.

Only security guards, in a position on either side of the official stand, with their hands on their hips, were allowed to break the silence of the room which makes a man's eye, it does not look at all that impressive — a chunk of crystal.

But the

reporter says that it was not a pure and perfect stone as possibly as a diamond.

The Diamond was cut in 1946, in a mine at California, but its existence was not known until it was found when it was a member of the chairman of the company's credit here. It has been called "The Centenary Diamond" because it is described as "colorless" stone, which is, in fact, colorless.

In order to have been called "the first water" stone which pure, uncut stone.

"It will be a diamond. We are looking for a number of different sizes. At this stage we say that the stone is not itself a diamond. De Beers spokesman, 'We have'

WORLD ROUNDUP

Cross assault on Cypriot leader

The President and Foreign Minister of the self-styled Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus were rushed by some 30 hostile demonstrators wielding sticks yesterday as they entered a London conference called by sympathizers of the northern part of the island, which broke away in 1983 (Andrew McEwen writes).

Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, said that an attempt was made to hit him on the head with a large wooden cross and that his Foreign Minister, Dr Kenan Atakol, was struck. An aide said he suffered several blows. Two policemen guarding the conference were overwhelmed by the demonstrators, who were apparently Greek Cypriots. One demonstrator was arrested. "I saw the anger, the hatred in these people's faces. They are being poisoned by anti-Turkish propaganda," Mr Denktaş said.

Law chief Meese resigns aides quit

Bogotá — Colombia's Attorney-General has resigned after embarrassing revelations of links between his brother and the nation's leading cocaine racketeer (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

The resignation of Señor Alfredo Gutiérrez Márquez came only two months after he succeeded Señor Carlos Mauro Hoyos Jiménez, who was kidnapped and murdered by drug gangsters, as the country's chief and independent prosecutor.

In his controversial tenure, Señor Alfredo Gutiérrez questioned the value of extraditing drug traffickers to the United States, and mooted the idea of legalizing the cocaine business.

Washington — Mr Arnold Burns, Deputy Attorney General, and Mr William Weld, Assistant Attorney General, resigned yesterday, saying they wanted to return to private life (Michael Binyon writes).

Speculation was rife that they had become increasingly concerned at the criminal investigations surrounding Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney General.

But a spokesman for the Justice Department denied that their departures had been prompted by a policy dispute or by the investigations of Mr James McKay, the special prosecutor looking into the business dealings of Mr Meese.

British pledge to Fiji

Britain yesterday offered to help Fiji work out a new constitution which could enable it to regain international acceptance (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

An unusually warm statement, reflecting the personal interest of the Prime Minister, was issued after discussions between Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the Fijian Prime Minister. He is in Britain seeking the restoration of Fiji's links with the Crown. Two coups last year and the declaration of a republic put an end to the Queen's role as Queen of Fiji and to the island's membership of the Commonwealth.

South Africa steps up hunt for guerrillas in front-line states

Four die in clash near Zimbabwe border

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

Four more alleged terrorists have been killed by South African forces in a battle close to the Zimbabwe border, it was officially stated yesterday, bringing the total shot dead in the past week to 12.

Brigadier F Botha, chief of staff of the South African Defence Force, Far Northern Command, said forces left by seven men had been discovered leading from Zimbabwe, across a six-mile buffer strip into the Northern Transvaal. His statement prompted immediate speculation that South African forces were poised to strike across the Zimbabwe border as they did on Monday into Botswana when four people, three of them women, were killed and burnt

beyond recognition after being doused with petrol.

The Botswana attack followed a shoot-out three days earlier on the border with South Africa in which, according to South Africa, three suspected terrorists were killed, and the killing last week by unidentified gunmen of an African National Congress guerrilla in a hospital in Maseru, the Lesotho capital.

The shooting in a Paris street of an ANC member, Miss Dulcie September, reported yesterday, and a car-bomb attempt in Brussels on the life of Mr Godfrey Mphahlele, the chief ANC representative there, indicated that South Africa has embarked on a renewed blitz against the ANC in line with its frequently stated declaration that it will seek out and

destroy the organization from wherever it operates.

The gunbattle in the Venda homeland added a new salient element to South Africa's expanding border wars. White areas close to the homeland have come under attack previously and in February Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, and General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, paid a highly publicized visit to a farm which had been attacked by mortars.

Although Zimbabwe has frequently stated that it does not willingly harbour the ANC, Mr Botha starkly warned it: "We've had enough."

In its statement yesterday Defence Headquarters in Pretoria said the suspected terrorists were trapped on an island on the Motala River in

north-eastern Venda. Homeland and South African troops, as well as the Air Force, were used in the attack.

"The security forces were still following four tracks," the statement said. It added that a large quantity of Soviet-bloc arms had been captured and that the incursion "was part of the enemy's plan to infiltrate Venda to establish a strategic base for further actions against the Republic of South Africa."

Meanwhile Botswana has delivered a strong protest to South Africa and demanded compensation for what it described as "an unprovoked attack".

In Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, it was claimed yesterday that South West African Peoples Organization saboteurs were heading for the territory from Angola.

South African forces have been fighting in southern Angola against Swapo and government troops since last October and claim to have inflicted heavy losses against the guerrilla organization.

● LONDON: Britain yesterday protested to South Africa over its raid into Botswana. Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, summoned the South African Ambassador, Mr Rae Killen, to see her (Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, writes). She said that Britain strongly condemned the raid, saw it as a flagrant breach of Botswana's territorial integrity, and could not condone "gunlaw behaviour". She also asked for an explanation of Pretoria's failure to use established consultative arrangements with Gaborone.

Paris denies ANC plea ignored

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

The French Government last night rejected allegations that the African National Congress representative, Mrs Dulcie September, who was murdered in Paris yesterday, had been refused police protection recently. The Minister in charge of security, M Robert Pandraud, insisted that no approach had been made "regarding this person".

"All the means at our disposal will now be used to identify and arrest those behind this attack," M Pandraud said, insisting that his Government made no distinction between "terrorism of the right or of the left".

As demonstrators gathered outside the South African Embassy and at the spot where the Mrs September was shot, another local ANC official claimed that her life had been threatened and that she had been followed during the past few days.

"We had advised the French authorities that the South Africans were planning

assassinations in Europe," Mr Maurice Cukierman, treasurer of the organization in France, said. Echoing that claim, the Paris representative of the South West African Peoples' Organization said that the Ministry of the Interior had not replied to Mrs September's appeal for help.

"We were both threatened several times and reported this to the authorities, but had heard nothing until today," Mr Eddy Amkongo said.

According to police sources, Mrs September, who had worked in Paris for the ANC since 1984, was killed by two or more bullets fired at her head from very close range. One officer is said to have described the assassination as "a professional job".

Last night, President Mitterrand expressed his own concern about "the conditions in which the attack on Mrs September could have been carried out". The President viewed the attack as part of "a series of criminal actions" by

which violence is being used in a situation which has its origins in the apartheid system. M Mitterrand said that he would be making "the necessary representations" to the South African Embassy in Paris.

At the other end of the political spectrum, the National Front's president, M Jean-Marie Le Pen, claimed that the assassination proved that foreign terrorists "can strike here where and when they want... contrary to the self-congratulatory declarations of those in power."

In M Le Pen's view, however, it remains possible that the killing resulted from "inter-factional rivalry" within the ANC.

A similar view was contained in the statement issued here by the South African Embassy, which quoted Pretoria's Foreign Minister, Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, as rejecting any responsibility for the assassination. "Serious quarrels are going on within an organization known for using

violence to achieve political objectives," he said.

● HARARE: Mr Thabo Mbeki, a member of the ANC's national executive, said that the sequence of events in Brussels, Paris and the north-eastern Transvaal were part of an offensive "by Pretoria to liquidate its opponents" (Jan Raath writes).

The assassination of Mrs September was "the result of the failure of the major Western powers to act against apartheid," he said. "They (the South African Government) were certain it was not going to have any consequences. Still, we would hope that this action would prompt the French Government to act against the Pretoria regime."

● LONDON: The ANC office in London said it was concerned about the security of its members in Britain (Nicholas Beckett writes). A spokesman said that it was considering asking the police for more protection.



Mrs Dulcie September whom a colleague claimed had been threatened and followed for days before she was murdered.

Democrats conspire to flaw Jackson message

From Charles Bremner, New York

As Connecticut pronounced on the presidential primary race yesterday, the first signs of a "Stop Jesse Jackson" movement began appearing in a Democratic Party thrown into chaos by the black preacher's leap to the head of the field.

While Mr Michael Dukakis, the Massachusetts Governor, drew some advance solace from an expected win in neighbouring Connecticut, party strategists huddled in New York and Washington to find ways to expose the factual errors and contorted logic of much of Mr Jackson's highly popular "message".

With the Democrats bandying about words such as disaster and crisis, Vice-President George Bush was effectively handed the Republican nomination when Mr Robert Dole said he was about to announce the end of his mortally wounded campaign.

Most Democrats were being discreet but Mr John Baker, the Alabama Democratic chairman, circulated a letter suggesting that southern leaders work to nominate "the most electable" candidate.

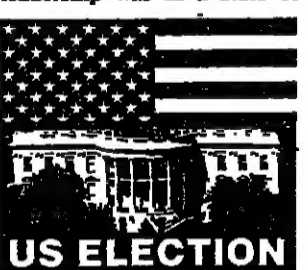
"A white candidate espousing what Mr Jackson is espousing wouldn't have a chance at being elected," he said. "He's the most liberal candidate running. I wonder if he were white if he would have any delegates at all."

In New York, where the candidates are already sparring ahead of the next big primary on April 19, Mayor Edward Koch gave a pointed near-endorsement to Senator

Albert Gore, "a first-rate candidate whose policies are mainstream America, mainstream Democrat".

The Mayor, mindful of the city's huge black and Hispanic vote, was coming as close as he dared to criticizing Mr Jackson. He also added that he was still hoping Mr Mario Cuomo, the state Governor, could be prevailed on to enter the race — a happy ending that many in the party still dream about.

Mr David Garth, a star media strategist who has just joined Mr Gore, said the party leadership was in a state of



panic at the thought of Mr Jackson winning most delegates and demanding the nomination.

Mr Garth predicted a surge against Mr Jackson once voters realized he was really in the running for President.

But some elders were already concluding that the business of confronting Mr Jackson was useless, given racial sensitivities and because Mr Jackson owes his appeal — to the whites who support him as well as to blacks — to his unorthodox and inspiring oratory, not to logical policies. The best hope

for the anti-Jackson majority is for Mr Dukakis, or another candidate, to start inspiring on their own account, they say. No other candidate has come close to winning over crowds the way Mr Jackson does with his platform as champion of the underdog against exploitation by big business, uncaring government and drug dealers.

Until now, Mr Jackson's race has protected him from the kind of withering scrutiny levelled at the succession of white contenders who have surged to the front and fallen back.

Initially patronizing, at a time when Mr Jackson was being written off as an oddity, his rivals now nip-toe respectfully around his positions as they would around a dozing tiger. On Monday night at a debate in the Bronx, New York's show-case of urban wasteland, Senator Paul Simon and Senator Gore fell over themselves to agree with and praise their opponent's views.

But with Mr Jackson on the proverbial "roll", some of these views are now being challenged. The *New Republic*, a weekly with Democratic views, this week set out to demolish many of the elements of his manifesto.

"Some of his comments are confused or completely wrong-headed. Some are just plain gibberish," it said.

Among these were his oft-repeated claims that America is exporting its capital and that its farmers are being hit by food imports and education for the poor has "crashed".

Rough diamond may yield smooth £15m for De Beers

From Michael Hornsby, Kimberley

A flawless 599-carat rough gem diamond, which is expected to yield the second biggest polished stone in existence, was unveiled to the public for the first time here yesterday by De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited.

The ceremony took place in the De Beers diamond sorting tower not far from the famous "Big Hole", the vast man-made crater which is all that remains of the original Kimberley mine that produced 14.5 million carats of diamonds between 1871 and 1914.

Journalists and photographers were kept behind a chain barrier as the diamond was brought in and laid on a blue cloth.

Two heavy security guards took up positions on either side of the stone with orders, a De Beers official said, smiling only slightly, "to break the arms of anyone who makes a grab for it".

To the untrained eye, it does not look all that impressive — a whitish chunk of crystal, opaque in parts. But the

experts say that when cut and polished it will be an absolutely pure and perfect gem, worth possibly as much as £15 million.

The diamond was found on July 17, 1986, in the Premier Mine at Cullinan, near Pretoria, but its existence was kept secret until March 11 this year when it was disclosed by Mr Julian Ogilvie Thompson, the chairman of De Beers, at the company's centenary banquet here. It has been named "The Centenary Diamond".

It is described as a "top-colour" stone, which means that it is, in fact, colourless.

In older jargon, it would have been called "a diamond of the first water" — that is, a stone which when placed in pure, untainted water is invisible.

"It will be a difficult stone to cut. We are looking at a number of different possibilities. At this stage we can only say that the stone seems to lend itself to a heart shape", Mr Neville Huxham, the De Beers spokesman, said.

"We have decided to cut

only one gem from the stone, which is most unusual when dealing with a stone of this size. After it has been cut and polished, which will take about a year, it will be put on display and ultimately will be sold".

The finished stone is expected to weigh comfortably in excess of 300 carats (a carat is equal to a fifth of a gramme), which would make it the second biggest polished diamond in the world after the 530-carat Cullinan I in the British Royal Sceptre.

Cullinan I was part of a much larger stone, weighing 3,106 carats, found in 1905 at the same Premier Mine which yielded the Centenary Diamond. The original Cullinan, the largest rough gem diamond ever found, was cleaved into 105 separate stones.

The cutting and polishing of the diamond will be done in South Africa in consultation with Mr Gaby Tolkowsky, who belongs to a famous Antwerp family of diamond cutters. He has studied the diamond for several months.

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Blockade by Israel fails to prevent West Bank violence

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

At least seven Palestinians were wounded in a violent clash with Israeli soldiers yesterday in the West Bank village of Zeitia. There were also clashes in the Hebron area but no casualties were reported. Several locations were under curfew.

Reports of the continued unrest in the occupied West Bank leaked out in spite of a near total ban on press coverage of events in the area.

The West Bank, along with the Gaza Strip, has been completely sealed off since 1 am local time yesterday in anticipation of today's Land Day demonstrations.

No news at all was coming out of the Gaza Strip yesterday, with all telephone lines to the area cut.

The Foreign Press Association, which represents some 200 foreign correspondents in Israel, yesterday turned down the Army's offer to allow escorted reporters into the occupied territories.

"We feel that it is a dangerous precedent that could lead to our being kept out of the territories on a long-term basis," said Mr Bob Slater, chairman of the association.

The Israel Journalists Association also condemned the new restriction and its chairman, Mr Amnon Nadav, said he was "almost certain" that the 2,000 members of the local association would also not co-operate with the Army's pool arrangements.

Fears that the closure of the occupied territories could extend beyond tomorrow, when the present order expires, or

that a similar closure could be imposed again, were fuelled yesterday by hints by both the Army chief of staff, Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron, and by the Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin.

The immediate reason for the decision to seal off the West Bank and Gaza Strip for three days was apparently to prevent all contact between the Palestinians in the occupied areas and Israel's 700,000 Arab citizens, who today mark Land Day, the anniversary of the slaying by police of six villagers in a land-expropriation protest 12 years ago.

The day has usually passed off relatively peacefully but there have been growing signs over the past 3½ months of support among Israeli Arabs for the Palestinian uprising in the occupied areas.

It is widely feared that this support could make today's anniversary much more explosive than it has been in the past, and more than 1,500 policemen were deployed yesterday throughout all Arab-populated areas.

The Israeli Arabs have planned a general strike and several authorized rallies for today, and community leaders have called for restraint.

But no one, either in the Arab community or among the Israelis, could offer any assurances yesterday that the younger, more militant Israeli Arabs, inspired by the uprising in the occupied territories, would not set the turn. In such a situation matters could get out of hand.

There are also fears that the

Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, who have not in the past commemorated Land Day, will attempt to step up their own protests today in an effort to make common cause with their fellow Arabs inside Israel's pre-1967 borders.

Yesterday's relative tranquility in the occupied territories was described by one Palestinian source yesterday as possibly "the quiet before the storm".

TEL AVIV. The Foreign Press Association appealed to the Supreme Court yesterday to overturn the three-day ban on media coverage of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip (Reuters reports).

The group's chairman, Mr Bob Slater said he asked the court for an emergency injunction ordering the Government to reopen the territories to free media coverage. "We have fears that this may last much more than three days. This is obviously a major setback," he said.

Israeli editors and press organizations also protested against the measure. Mr Ido Dissentchik, editor of the independent afternoon newspaper *Maariv*, called the ban "a hysterical step".

Journalists and photographers were turned back at gunpoint yesterday at entrances to the occupied territories. Mr Ari Rath, editor of the liberal *Jerusalem Post*, said: "This is really going to harm Israel's image even more."

"People will draw parallels more and more with South Africa."

Younger sets foot in North Korea

From Gavin Bell, Panmunjom

Almost 40 years on, Mr George Younger has returned in a less belligerent but equally unofficial manner to a hostile communist state he once fought to conquer.

The Secretary of State for Defence did so yesterday by stepping around a conference table in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) on the Korean peninsula, thereby placing himself in North Korea.

His brief visit was in marked contrast to his last tour of the workers' paradise of the "Great Leader", Kim Il Sung, in the bitterly cold winter of 1950-51.

On that occasion, Mr Younger was wearing the uniform of a Second Lieutenant of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and leading a platoon of 30 men in assaults on hills defended by Chinese troops.

In more sober attire yesterday, he made the symbolic gesture of crossing the demarcation line in the conference room of the Military Armistice Commission under the watchful eyes of armed South Korean and US escorts.

Fortunately his presence aroused no evident hostility from North Korean guards in the tense joint security area, who were content to observe the proceedings curiously from the windows of the single-storey building.

Mr Younger thus ventured where Mr Ronald Reagan had not dared to tread, and Mrs Thatcher had not dared to.

The US President was kept away from the area for security reasons during a visit in 1983. Mrs Thatcher did enter the



Mr George Younger, watched by curious North Korean guards, in Panmunjom yesterday.

room three years later, but declared that having reached the limit of democracy there was nothing of interest to her on the other side.

For Mr Younger, it was an illuminating experience. "It is very educational to see how the United Nations still represents the free world here in what is becoming an ever more absurd situation," he told *The Times*. "At the same time, it is a sad reflection of unreason-

able attitudes from the North." Given his previous experiences in North Korea, a detailed briefing by a young American soldier on its "unique and dangerous communist regime" was perhaps unnecessary.

Mr Younger, on the final leg of a tour of the Far East, was also escorted more than 200ft below the DMZ, along a North Korean invasion tunnel discovered in 1978. He walked

almost a mile along this sinister corridor to a small cavern where the South Koreans have installed a deadly maze of razor wire, mines, booby-traps and machine-guns. He later laid a wreath at the Commonwealth war memorial at Kapyong, 30 miles south of the DMZ. "You can't help recalling colleagues who fell, but it is something to see the freedom they were fighting for very much alive," he said.

Nine die in Sri Lanka bus bomb outrage

Colombo — Nine people were killed and 14 were seriously injured yesterday when a bomb exploded in a bus near Anuradhapura (Vijitha Yapa writes).

Police suspect the that the main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, planted the bomb, apparently concealed in a bag.

In the south, a police sergeant was shot dead at Tangalle, apparently by the proscribed Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front). Most schools in the area remain closed in protest against the killing of two schoolboys last week.

Sikhs killed

Amritsar (Reuters) — Sikh gunmen burst into a north Indian village house and massacred 10 members of a Sikh family, including a pregnant woman and children, police said.

Set free

Kampala (Reuters) — President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda has freed the ailing human rights activist, Mr Lance Seera Mwangi, for humanitarian reasons after more than a year of detention without trial.

Village blaze

Dhaka (AFP) — Six children died and about 1,000 people were left homeless when five destroyed more than 150 huts in a Bangladeshi landless peasants' settlement.

Visit delayed

Vienna (AFP) — Czechoslovakia has asked Chancellor Franz Vranitzky of Austria to postpone his scheduled visit there next month.

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Elections in Iran Radicals hope for reform mandate

By Nicholas Beeston

Iranians go to the polls next month to elect a new Parliament in what is being heralded as one of the most significant elections since the revolution.

In spite of the low-key campaigning political pundits in Tehran predict that the elections for the 270-seat single chamber *Majlis* (parliament) will focus on badly needed domestic economic and social reforms which have pitted radical factions against the conservatives.

They added that the new Parliament, elected for a four-year term, may find itself in power when a successor is chosen for the ailing Iranian leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, aged 86, and also could face negotiations on ending the Gulf War.

The outcome of polling by more than 20 million voters is expected to favour the radicals, whose leaders include the Prime Minister, Mr Mir Hossein Mousavi and the Interior Minister, Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Mohtashami.

If the radical factions, who have a 10-seat majority in the present Parliament, make gains, Iran could be transformed into a more socialist-orientated society with increased centralization and greater state control over the economy through nationalization and land reform.

The prospects for the radicals received a boost earlier this year when Ayatollah Khomeini spoke out against interference in the workings of government by religious leaders, who had the effective power of veto of parliamentary legislation through the 13-member Council of Guardians. The council has to ensure that new laws conform to Islamic codes.

The Ayatollah declared the establishment of a new body known as the Council for the Expediency of State Decrees, to which legislation rejected by the Council of Guardians is now referred for final hearing.

The more conservative factions led by President Khomeini and the Council of Guardians are represented clergy, who support private ownership and are backed by the mercantile class. "Khomeini does not care whether the radicals or the conservatives win so long as he has a workable government," said one Western diplomat, commenting on the exasperation felt by the Ayatollah on the often acrimonious exchanges in public between the country's polarized political factions.

The infighting has crippled the legislative process and halted reforms aimed at offsetting the huge cost in human and material resources of the Gulf War.

The Iranian Parliament does not operate along party lines and allegiances to the four main factions are frequently switched as a result of direct intervention on parliamentarians by Ayatollah Khomeini and the powerful Speaker of Parliament, Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"Khomeini and Rafsanjani want more technocrats in Parliament and are seeking to make it more representative of the people with more women members and less clerics," one Western diplomat said. President Khomeini completes his second and final term in office this year and observers predict his departure will leave the way open for some political jockeying.

Two theories are currently making the rounds in Tehran — that Mr Mousavi will be appointed President and succeed as Prime Minister by Mr Mohtashami, or that Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani could take the president's post, if he was able to expand the powers of office.

One of the main losers from the election may be the Chief Justice Ayatollah Abdolkarim Mousavi-Ardebili, whose post may be given to President Khomeini.

Two key issues will not be debated openly by the candidates, namely choosing the successor to Ayatollah Khomeini and the Gulf War.

"Although the selection of this Government comes at a crucial period I doubt whether the Iranian people will appreciate its importance because they live from day to day and are disillusioned with politics," one diplomat said.

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Nine die in Sri Lanka bus bomb outrage

Colombo - Nine people were killed and 14 were injured yesterday when a bus exploded in a bus station in Anuradhapura (Vijaya).

Police suspect the main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Eelam, planted the bomb apparently concealed in the rear of the bus. A police sergeant was shot dead in the attack.

Sikhs killed

Amritsar (Reuters) - Six gunmen burst into a house in a village near Amritsar, massacred 10 members of a Sikh family, including a woman and child, and set fire to the house.

Set free

Amritsar (Reuters) - Five Indian prisoners of war were freed by the Sikh separatist group, the Akali Dal, after more than a year of detention without trial.

Village blaze

Bhakra (AP) - Six children and about 1,000 people were killed when a village in the Punjab state of India was destroyed by a massive fire.

Visit delayed

Vienna (AFP) - Czech President Vaclav Havel's visit to the Soviet Union has been postponed until next month.

Operations in Iran

US hope for mandate

Washington (AP) - The US State Department says it is not clear whether the UN Security Council will accept a new mandate for the UN Truce Supervision Organization in Lebanon.

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Single market 'will save EEC £175 bn and boost growth'

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The European Commission announced yesterday that the creation of a single market by 1992 would save the EEC up to £175 billion and add 5 per cent to Europe's growth rate.

Lord Cockfield, the Commissioner for the Internal Market, said the present division of Europe into 12 national markets had resulted in monopolies and restrictive arrangements which in turn produced high prices and low growth. "What we are offering EEC member states is freedom from the controls which have held them back," Lord Cockfield said.

Presenting the results of a two-year study on the impact of 1992, including a survey of 11,000 companies throughout the EEC, M. Jacques Delors, President of the Commission, said that because of the dismantling of trade barriers, gross domestic product would rise by 4.5 per cent over five to six years. Consumer prices would fall by 6 per cent over the same period, while the EEC's jobless total (currently 16 million) would drop by nearly two million. If 1992 were

accompanied by "the appropriate macroeconomic policies", the growth rate increase would be 7 per cent and the fall in unemployment five million, M. Delors said.

The Commission came under fire from reporters for failing to provide the supporting evidence for these assertions.

Signor Paolo Coccini, the senior EEC official in charge of the report, said 6,000 pages of documents would be published next month and the material would be issued in book form in all EEC states.

Lord Cockfield said the study assumed that the 1992 programme for abolishing frontiers and trade barriers would be carried out in full. EEC leaders had agreed to a complete and effective set of measures and could not "pick and choose bits here and there" - an apparent reference to the Government's opposition to proposals for harmonizing VAT.

M. Delors said the Commission's aim was to have enough decisions in place by the end of this year to make 1992 "irreversible". All barriers had to go, even if this meant "hard decisions" rather than "easy options".

Alps study blames disasters on humans

By Anastol Lieven

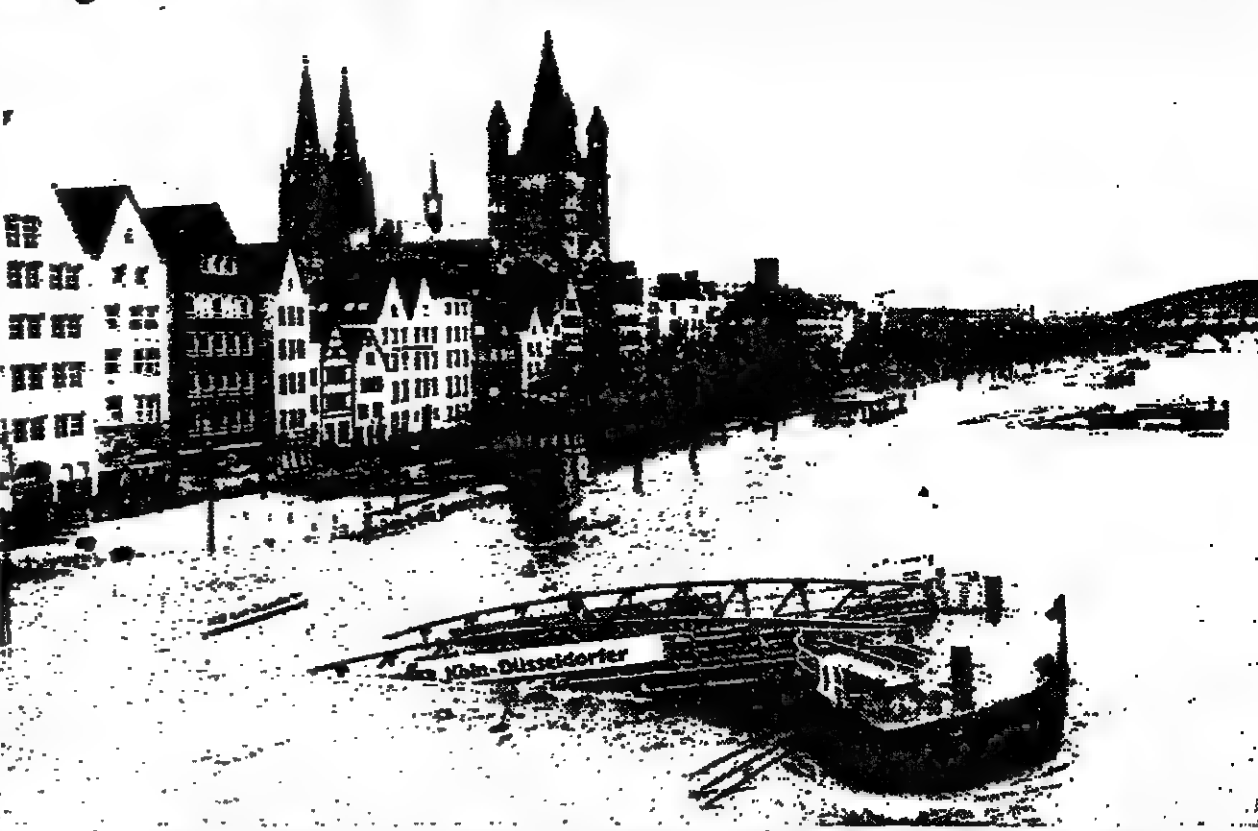
The floods afflicting Bavaria have been described by the inhabitants of the region as an "act of God". The many Alpine avalanches and landslides of recent months too appear to come under the same heading.

But according to recent studies in West Germany and Austria, at least some of these natural calamities may be directly due to human activity. It is claimed that avalanches, and the floods and landslides which claimed dozens of lives last year, have been made more likely by environmental damage in the Alps.

The German Alpine Association claims that by the mid-1990s half of all settlements in the Bavarian Alps alone will be threatened by some form of "natural disaster" in spite of the fact that the West German record on environmental protection is far better than that of France or Italy.

By way of illustration, the group has produced a "catastrophe map" of the Alps, showing the areas under threat. To an ordinary reader, the map might suggest that the only hope lies in prayer.

One reason given for the environmental deterioration is the massive growth of tourism. Herr Fritz März, the president of the German Alpine Association, in an interview with the West German news magazine *Der Spiegel*, has said that "the Alps are being literally reconstructed, because the good Lord was obviously not a skier".



Flood waters yesterday threatening the centuries-old houses along the banks of the Rhine near Cologne's cathedral district.

The tens of millions of tourists who visit the area each year harm the environment with their car exhaust fumes. Forests have been cleared to make ski-runs, opening the way to avalanches. However, on the whole, tourists appear to be the likely victims of environmental destruction.

As old, established tourist resorts become overcrowded, new hotels and camping sites are being built in places which local people have always known to be unsafe. Of course, there have always been floods in the Alps. If, however, they are becoming worse, then one of the factors is thought to be the decline in the Alpine forests, due chiefly to "acid rain".

This is now affecting forests all over Europe, but its effects in the Alps are more immediate - and disastrous. This is because tree-roots hold the soil together and trap rain-water and melting snow. If they wither, snow, water, mud and rocks can slip far more quickly down towards the valleys. Apart from devastating avalanches and landslides

damage to the trees helps cause flooding both in the mountains and on the plains. In response to growing public concern, the Bavarian state Government last November published a lengthy report on the measures it is taking to protect its forests and bring new constructions under control. It rejected the "catastrophe map" as alarmist.

Paris ignores Thatcher over joint brigade

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

After months of planning, the much-heralded Franco-German army brigade of 4,000 soldiers will begin to form in October with the setting up of the staff structure, according to French sources yesterday.

But although this symbolic step towards greater military co-operation between Paris and Bonn is seen as an important development in strengthening the European pillar of the Alliance, French Government officials privately admitted that one crucial NATO leader remained highly suspicious of their motives - the British Prime Minister.

"Mrs Thatcher," they said, "thinks that we are trying to build a spider's web outside NATO, with the French spider in the middle, when all we want to do is to add a defence dimension to the political and economic ties that already exist in Europe."

Franco-German defence co-operation Part 1

economic ties that already exist in Europe.

"But Mrs Thatcher seems to view the setting-up of a Franco-German brigade as a threat to the NATO structure. It's nothing of the kind."

In the eyes of the French officials, both in the Foreign and Defence ministries, France's relationship with NATO has been steadily evolving ever since President de Gaulle marched his country's forces out of the formal integrated military structure in 1966.

The rationale that led to France's withdrawal from the NATO command has not changed. "Nationalism is a basic element of French defence policy," said a senior government advisor.

"The idea that we make our own decisions on defence matters is very important to us. But we now want to take initiatives to reinforce the concept of a European pillar of the Atlantic Alliance. This is our main motivation."

With or without the support of Mrs Thatcher, who continues to believe that if France wishes to play a greater role in European security she should come back into the NATO fold, the French Government intends to press on with its campaign for a common European defence strategy.

Some more enlightened officials agree that France's relatively new-found enthusiasm for strengthening military ties with her economic partners in Europe could be described as "a kind of European Gaullism". But the officials emphasised that West Germany had not been singled out for the new spirit of co-operation. It was important to improve military links with West Germany as a priority, they said, for historical and geographical reasons.

Agreements had been signed recently with Spain and Italy to co-operate on security in the western Mediterranean area. The two countries had also agreed to participate in the French Helios military satellite programme.

The nuclear co-operation talks with Britain, which could lead to the development of a joint air-launched cruise mis-

sile, were also part of the new process, the official said.

So their overall motive, they said, was to strengthen European security, not to undermine NATO.

"The Foreign Office in London seems to be much more European-minded than Mrs Thatcher," one official said. "She has reacted in a negative way to the Franco-German brigade." (The idea of the brigade first came from Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany.)

The brigade concept is still unclear. The French admit that they are not sure what will happen next. For the moment, it will consist of French national servicemen and German full-time "territorials" who are currently responsible for German rear-area operations and are not formally assigned to NATO.

In peace time the brigade will, at first, come under French command although this will be rotated. It is admitted that the language problem will be a big barrier although all the troops will be given linguistic training.

In time of war there would be a joint decision by the French and German governments, under the auspices of the recently formed Defence and Security Council, to place the brigade under allied command for the defence of Europe, although the French would still have the right to withdraw their element of the brigade (2,000 troops) because of their determination to remain independent.

When the brigade is officially born in October, the French and German governments will bide their time before deciding whether to expand the idea.

Could there also be a French-British brigade?

An aide to the French Defence Minister, M. André Girard, commented: "I think this idea would not shock M. Girard." It would, however, undoubtedly shock Mrs Thatcher.

In the whole Franco-German defence co-operation issue there is one question which has not been seriously raised: would the French ever move their ground-launched tactical missiles - currently the Pluton but by 1992 to be replaced by the longer-range Hades - into West Germany to provide a nuclear umbrella for the joint brigade?

"We have not offered and the Germans have not asked," said one official.

But French government sources agree that the idea "is not ruled out".

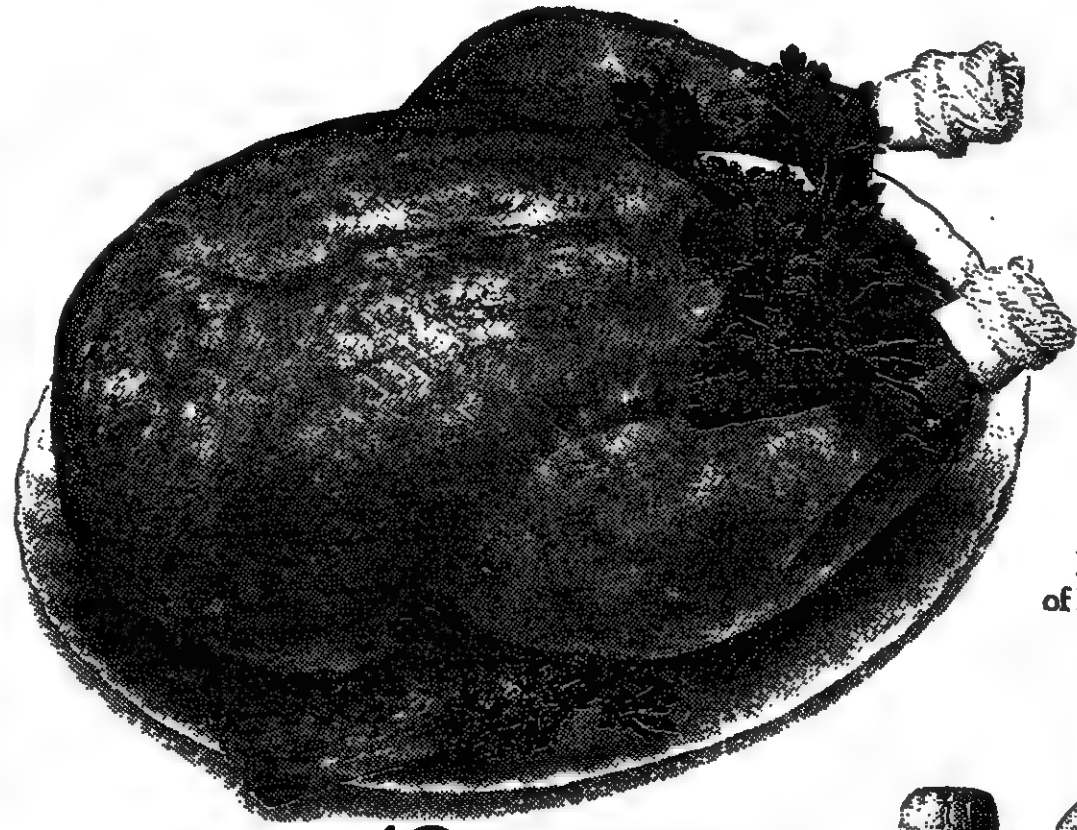
The Pluton missiles have never been deployed in central Europe. They remain based in eastern France.

If Hades missiles are deployed in 1992 they will also remain in France, although with a range of more than 250 miles they would not, like Pluton, threaten German territory but would be capable of reaching targets in Czechoslovakia. However, officials emphasised that the brigade itself would never be equipped with tactical weapons.

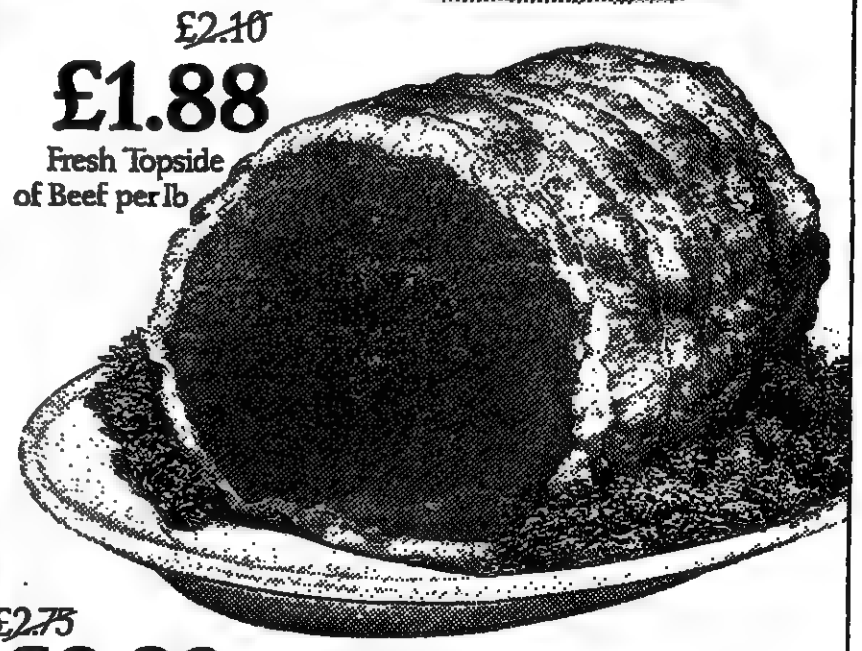
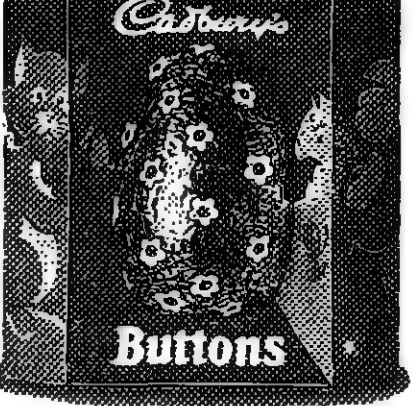
"There is no possibility of this brigade being involved in nuclear operations," said senior French officials.

Tomorrow: The German view

Sainsbury's Easter Parade.



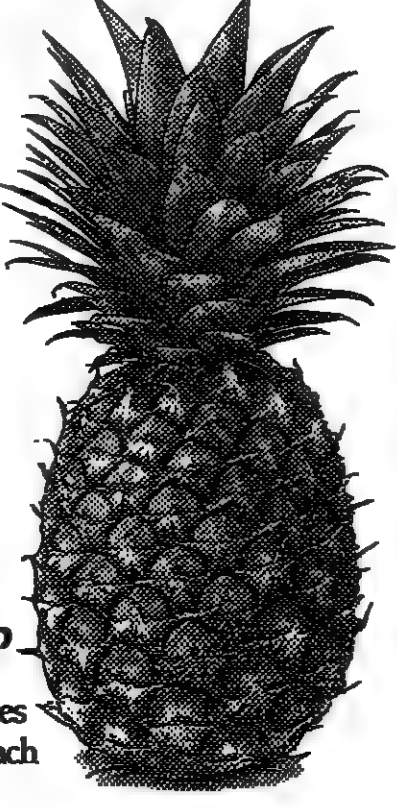
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105g



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£1.88
Fresh Topside
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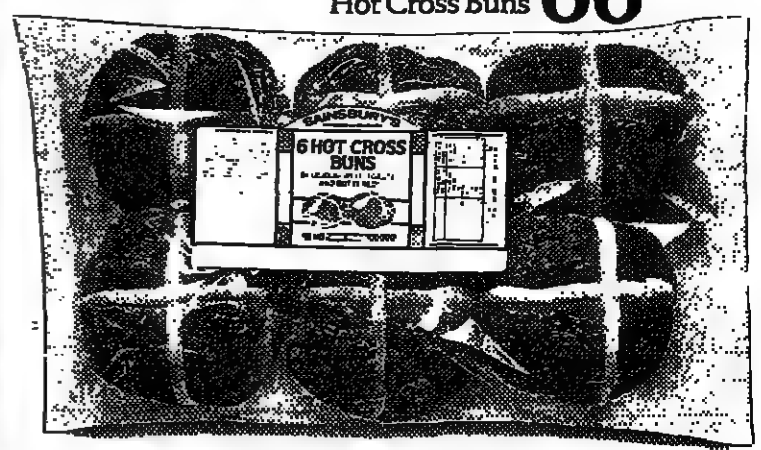
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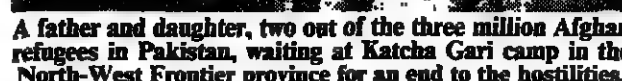


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Good food costs less at Sainsbury's.

Mujahidin bomb attacks kill Soviet troops in Kabul

Mr Hekmatyar, who repeated his rejection of the Geneva process as the means to achieve peace in Afghanistan, said that only direct talks between the alliance and the Soviet Government could possibly lead to a durable settlement and peace in Afghanistan.



He added that students were furious at the party's inability to respect its own highly-publicized campaign to implement political reform intended to cut party interference in administration.

Amount of Loan £	36 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £	60 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £	90 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £	120 MONTHS Monthly Repayment £
1000	34.96	24.11	18.92	-
3000	104.88	72.32	56.75	-
4000	139.84	96.42	75.66	66.01
5000	174.80	120.53	94.58	82.51

Example: borrow £1000 over 3 years, your monthly repayments will be only £34.96, and the total repayment £1277.58.

asked confiscation of their lands. Today's salaryman has no lands to lose, but he still needs something to brighten an otherwise depressingly predictable life.

David Watts

SPECTRUM

Rebel with a cause

With his cricketing career in turmoil, Ian Botham and his charity circus leave town today: a motley crew united in the fight against leukaemia. Alan Franks joins them in the Hannibal marathon

The steady noise of traffic on the north-bound autoroute from Perpignan is broken only by the trumpeting of three teenage elephants in the back garden of the five-star Novotel. As the fresh spring morning matures to blistering midday, the aroma from their tent wafts towards the pink British diners on the lawn and it at once becomes plain to smell exactly how Hannibal upset the Romans at Turin in 218 BC. Chemical warfare has nothing on this.

We are at the headquarters of Ian Botham's 500-mile trek across the Alps, starting this morning in the footsteps of the great Carthaginian general. The England all-rounder has acquired many adversaries over the years and across the globe, from the British media to the Australian cricket authorities, but there is no malign presence on the planet whose threat he takes more seriously than that of leukaemia.

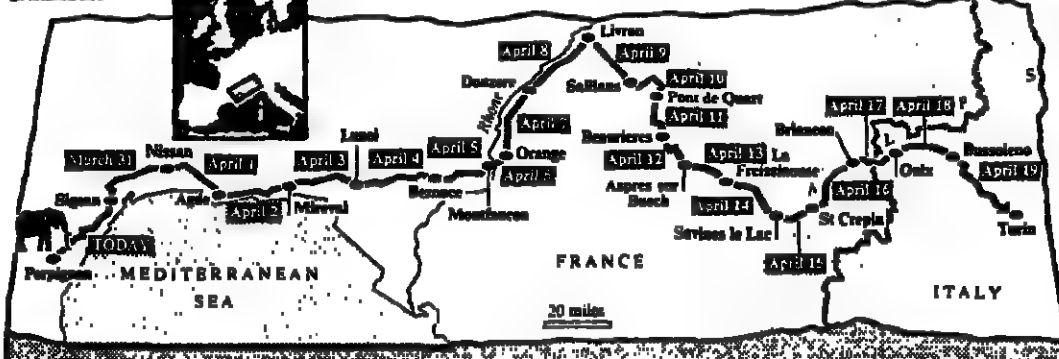
All the money raised from sponsorship of the marathon walk — and he is talking in terms of between £5 million and £10 million — will go towards the British research fund which is fighting the killer disease.

For the past week this place has become a circus — human rather than animal — with every day a new bevy of handlers, agents, PR men, bickering film crews, friends, families, spilling into the hotel where the broad Botham bestrides the foyer like a Colossus.

It is all utterly surreal. Here is an English sportsman who has just spent much of the winter taking coals to Newcastle — that is, exporting boorishness to his coun-



DAVID HART



In Hannibal's footsteps: the elephants and some of the huge team of supporters joining Botham on his 500-mile Alpine adventure (left)

humanly possible through the endeavours of the coming days on the hoof, and it would be a rash man who calls his sincerity into question. There is Guy the Gorilla (his nickname), and then there is just the straightforward, not very complicated Good Bloke.

There is also a terrible new poignancy in the whole affair, for long since the Hannibal march could have been negotiated with his 39 elephants was narrowed down to five. Seven years ago he hired an elephant and travelled without mishap over four of them. Since then he has been trying to raise

library with him in a metal cabinet, complete with its Polybius and Livy, and pours daily over its contents. If this were a David Lean epic — the thought is not so absurd — he would have been played by Michael Hordern to Botham's Oliver Reed.

Albert Finney would have got the part of Rex Shayler, a straight-talking electronics buffon who is monitoring the progress of the elephants from start to finish. He has come with £23,000 worth of biomedical telemetry equipment.

For him, as much as for Zeuner, this trip is the stuff of solid research, from which he plans to produce a paper for use by animal biologists and conservationists. The implications of this technology are immense, and already there are signs of interest from the Thai and Nepalese forestry commissions, who see in telemetry a potential means of protecting their endangered herds.

Just for the moment then, cricket is a world away as the other preoccupations take root — money, blisters, leukaemia, technology, and above all the ele-

phants themselves. Dido, Tali and Salammbô, all obsessively tended round the clock by their minders from the Circo Nazionale Italiano, Medrano.

What next? Botham says he has two or three more projects in mind, including a six-month walk along the Chinese border. "But that's only after I retire from cricket... or the authorities ask me to retire."

According to one close friend, Botham had no idea that the Hannibal venture would snowball as it has: "He is the kind of guy who finds it quite hard to distinguish between dreams and reality. One day he can be sitting around thinking, wouldn't it be a good idea to walk in Hannibal's footsteps; and then, because it's Ian Botham, other people get interested; and then there's talk about money, and quite soon someone says to him 'Oh Ian, what about that Hannibal walk?', and it turns into reality almost before he has had time to consider the question."

The time is up and the answer starts here.

Out with the rhetoric-swat, pop goes the weasel

NEW WORDS FOR OLD
Philip Howard

Bien Pensant's rule
OK
Gran?

stiffen; and reach for your rhetoric-swat. Weasel words are words that convey heat not light, and suck the meaning out of the words around them. In the way that a weasel is supposed (erroneously) to suck the contents out of an egg and leave an empty shell, in real life, yellow in tooth and claw, weasels bust open eggs to get at the contents, rather than neatly sucking them. Weasel words neutralize, contradict, or divert from the meaning of the words they accompany, making the statement equivocal or meaningless. *Bien pensant* is a sneering slogan rather than a good yolk.

You can trace the idea, as usual, back to Shakespeare. In *As You Like It* Jacques asserts: "I can suck melancholy out of a song as a weasel sucks eggs." (That's folk-weasel-lore, Will.) Weasel word was coined in 1899 by Steward Chaplin in a piece in *Century Magazine*. It was widely popularized 16 years later by Theodore Roosevelt, in a speech in St Louis criticizing President Woodrow Wilson's policy of "universal voluntary training". He said: "You can have universal training or you can have voluntary training, but when you use *voluntary* to qualify *universal*, you are using a weasel word. It has sucked all the meaning out of universal. The two words flatly contradict each other."

When some ratter uses the phrase *bien pensant*, ask yourself whether his argument contains any rational abstract reasoning, or any matter of fact or existence. If the answer is No, commit it then to the flames, for it can contain nothing but sophistry and weasel words. After politics and journalism, the advertising dream factory is the natural habitat of weasel words.

There work the boys and girls who say "authentic replica", when they mean genuine fake. A "new larger package" implies to weasel-watchers that the contents of the new package are the same as or even less than those in the old smaller package. "Popularity-priced": popular with whom? "Everybody's reading it": impossible to prove, but inherently improbable. "Invest now for future security": send us your money, suckers. "Gift offer": do I get a tawdry prezzy anyway, or only if I buy a time-share cupboard in Alicante? "Ersatz": all it means is fake, chum. "And more": and more what? "The original": out-of-date, inferior, unimproved. The prudent *bien pensant* always travels with his weasel-net.

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TIMES DIARY

ALAN COREN

Thank you so much for writing, and yes, I did know that St Crispin was the patron saint of bootmakers. Indeed, last Wednesday's elaborate conceit about the England-Ireland rugby international was directed solely towards that facetious climax. That St Crispin emerged in print as the patron saint of bootmakers was not of my doing.

I have, however, paid the pence as if it were. Intrigued by the canonical hinterland of the cock-up, I have spent much of the past week attempting to find out who is the patron saint of bootmakers. I have made the dusty pilgrimage to a number of arcane bookshops and libraries, and thumbed through countless lives of the saints, including three biographies of Robert Maxwell, all to scant avail. Though still, I admit, not a name to conjure with where theologians foregather, I am nevertheless prepared to offer 33 to 1 against anyone coming up with a holy protector of turf accountants.

My next task is to find out if there is a patron saint of typsetters. I find it hard to believe that since Gutenberg at least one of their number hasn't been martyred by some variant of the many exotic methods I have been studying all week, nibbled to tatters by a mob of ululating hacks, perhaps, before being drowned in a vat of ink and stapled to his front door.

Curiously (mystically?) there was much talk of typesetting on Sunday at the delightful party thrown by my local newspaper, J.A. Loder's, to celebrate 50 years on the same Fortnum & Mason site. The crowd thronging the boulevard outside was in that sentimental mood in which nostalgia turns ancient ineptitudes into desiderata. Memory-swapping grew to such hysterical pitch among the older members that you would swear the oldies were about to come to blows over which pre-Munich ice-creams ran down your arm fastest, which toffees removed most fillings, whether Tizer-stained shirts more inextricably than Jaycon Cherrydye, and so on.

And typesetting? The news for Mr Murdoch is not good. What the world needs now, according to the Loder clientele, is small ads on the front of *The Times*, a minuscule typeface that can be read only under a microscope, and, naturally, ink that comes off on your hands.

On Monday, a man came down from Solihull and bought my car. It was as dispiriting an experience as any I can recall. In 30 years of driving, I had never actually sold a car before. I had always chopped them in as part-exchange for the one I was buying, which meant that not only was the pang of parting sorrow instantly mitigated by the joy of the new shiny, but that no money changed hands. Furthermore, the brief transaction always took place in a clean, well-lit showroom, the surroundings endowing the exchange with a semblance of professionalism and respectability, and the dealer glossing over any potential commercial tangles with the obsequious suavity normally associated with the better class of gynaecologist.

Monday was rather different. Having advertised the car privately and received a number of phone calls from the sort of voices which suggested that the caller had negatives in his possession which a small consideration might persuade him to part with, I duly arranged what the least sinister of these referred to as a 'meet'. This took place in a little street behind my office, but not before I had remained sitting in the car for some time, in light drizzle, staring through the bloated windscreen at people who were staring back at me, and not knowing quite what to put into my stare, in case one of these other starers was the putative purchaser and might either be put off by the wrong sort of stare and just go away again, or else somehow use what he had divined from my stare — naivety, terror, greed — as a bargaining counter in the upcoming negotiations.

BARRY FANTONI



I do hope he thinks twice before assassinating one of the elephants

Eventually, not one, but two, men turned up. I got out and shook their rainy hands, and then one of them walked off a yard or two. The one who remained explained that he was a motor-dealer, and that the one who now stood apart was his client, the dealer, having seen my advertisement and having on his books a client looking for a car like mine, would now negotiate on both their behalves, for a commission.

The operation instantly took on the unsavory lineaments of an arranged marriage. Tribal rituals came into play, old formulae were spoken, traditional gestures deployed. The broker examined the bride, prodded, scribbled, interrogated me about her provenance and quirks, sneered at her flaws, cackled at my claims, finally walking across to engage the client in inaudible murmuring, after which we all three climbed in and drove about a bit, the client in the back.

Eventually, a deal was struck, and, of course, a lousy one. Back at my desk and staring at a tiny cheque made even more dubious by a rainspot on the date, I could not help wondering if there were a patron saint of motor-dealers who — when one of his earthly flock test-drove a vendor's car around the block — put a strange arrhythmic clunk in the rear axle that had never been there before, but which, to the trained mechanic's ear, could instantly be diagnosed as 10 per cent off the asking-price.

The announcement on Monday of the arrest of six suspected Soviet agents in West Germany raises a number of intriguing questions. Dr Kurt Rebmann, the federal public prosecutor, has said that the arrests have made a "vast breach" in the KGB spy network in West Germany. The statement seems strange for two reasons.

First, technology — the sector at issue in this case, said to involve aircraft secrets — is usually the responsibility of GRU, Soviet military intelligence, not of the KGB. Second, while this was a major operation involving 169 police officers in raids on 33 locations, the number arrested is small.

During the 1950s and 1960s more than 2,000 spies a year were being uncovered in West Germany, while in recent years we have seen a number of mass expulsions. In 1971 Britain expelled 103 Soviet officials for "activities incompatible with their status" and in the past few years France and America have expelled Russians by the score.

The timing of the arrests also raises questions. The raids were conducted a week ago, a news blackout covering them until the beginning of this week, and clearly had been planned for some time. In intelligence, trade

Andrew Lownie finds puzzling elements in the German arrests

An odd collection of spies

practice is never to declare one's hand unnecessarily. It is far better to keep known agents under surveillance in the hope they will lead to more important spies, or in the hope that they can be used to feed back disinformation to the enemy. Keeping an eye on the devil one knows is better than giving the opposition the opportunity to create new and unknown networks. Spy expulsions, anyway, often lead to reprisals.

One can only suppose that there was good reason to swoop at this particular moment, perhaps to prevent one of those arrested returning to East Germany for good or to save a Western double-agent who had infiltrated a spy ring.

The carefully staged revelations about the raids suggest that the West German authorities wish to reap the maximum publicity from the arrests. There has long been a concern in Bonn, London and Paris that the

propaganda war between East and West was being lost. The arrests will have demonstrated that, despite glasnost, the Soviet bloc continues to engage in espionage on the grand scale: a warning shot may have been deliberately fired before planned meetings between Chancellor Kohl and Mr Gorbachev.

West Germany is of course in the forefront of the East-West intelligence war. There are estimated to be some 8,000 spies working for the East in West Germany. Since Chancellor Brandt's agreements with the Soviet Union more than 15 years ago the opportunities for espionage have been widespread, with a Soviet consulate and trade mission in West Berlin and an East German mission in Bonn.

Over the past few years there have been a number of well-publicized defections to the East, including Hans Joachim Tiecke, a departmental head in charge of counter-espionage operations

against East Germany in the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, the equivalent of our MI5, and that of Sonja Luemburg, a personal secretary of the West German economics minister. Only a few days ago it was announced that Elke Falk, a secretary in the Ministry for Economic Co-operation in Bonn, had been arrested on suspicion of spying for East Germany.

It has been claimed that Monday's arrests are not related to that of Falk, and certainly the method of recruitment seems quite different. Both Luemburg and Falk were middle-aged spinsters who were seduced by Soviet-bloc agents and persuaded to pass information in a classic "Roméo" and "Swallow" operation.

The six individuals arrested yesterday seem to have been long-term agents who operated as "legals" rather than under diplomatic cover or for any

official Russian organization such as Tass. Some had been born in the Soviet Union and others had studied in East Germany, where presumably they were recruited. Georg Bender is supposed to have been recruited 14 years ago while still in his teens; Helmut Stefan Kolasch, allegedly the most important, is supposed to have been working for the East Germans since 1971.

Each of those arrested seems to have been given different targets. Peter Friesen is named as supplying information on the West German political parties since 1981, while Eduard Neufert, a teacher at the federal foreign language school near Cologne, is accused of gathering information on civil servants since 1983. Kolasch and Fayardo Amaya, who carried a Colombian passport, are charged with revealing sensitive technological information.

The Eastern bloc is certainly anxious to obtain any informa-

tion it can about technological developments in the West, and indeed this has become as important, if not more important, than political intelligence. It is difficult to see, however, how material about the Tornado multi-role combat aircraft or the European Fighter Aircraft can still be regarded as top secret. One of the ironies of the spy world is that the Eastern bloc places a higher premium on stolen information than on information taken more easily from technical journals.

Likewise, while the Soviet intelligence services do tend to want to obtain as much information as they can about individuals with access to sensitive information, it is hard to imagine what information some of those arrested could have had access to.

It is probable that these arrests will be followed by others. Fourteen individuals are still being investigated and a 40-year-old engineer in Switzerland has been held on suspicion of spying after a tip-off from the West German authorities. Clearly we have not heard the last in this particular episode of the spy war between East and West.

The author is a writer specializing in East-West affairs.

Conor Cruise O'Brien

The tide turns against Reagan

Bloomington, Indiana

The Reagan revolution is sputtering to an end. Last week, two of the most cherished projects of the Reagan presidency received what are probably mortal blows. One was his attempt to turn back the clock in civil rights matters, the other the attempt to bring down the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua.

The first project took a terrible beating on Tuesday of last week, when both houses of Congress overrode a presidential veto to enact the Civil Rights Restoration Act. Last Thursday brought a defeat of similar proportions when the Contra leadership signed what looked like preliminary talks for a separate peace with the Sandinistas, and thus let the White House down with a thud.

The pattern of congressional voting on the Civil Rights Restoration Bill showed that political racism is now a lot stronger in the Republican than in the Democratic Party, and that northern Republicans are getting worried about this. In the Senate, the Bill was carried by 73 votes to 24, the majority made up of 52 Democrats and 21 Republicans, the minority solely of 24 Republicans.

There were three abstentions: two Democrats and one Republican. The Democrats were John Stennis of Mississippi and Joseph Biden of Delaware. For the venerable Mississippi senator, an abstention on a Civil Rights Restoration Bill must be accounted a relatively reasonable concession. Biden might reasonably be cast as an eccentric. He is the gentleman whose presidential ambitions have been blasted by a fatal passion for the prose-style of Neil Kinnock. The Republican abstainer was Robert Dole, who apparently wants his presidential campaign to end not with a bang but a whimper.

In the voting in the House of Representatives — 292-133 — there were 10 Democrats who voted against the Bill; 240 voted in favour, along with 52 Repub-

licans; 123 Republicans voted against. The voting from the southern states showed that the no-surrender racist vote in Dixie now goes almost exclusively to the Republicans. In the cases of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, all the Democratic representatives voted for the Bill, and all the Republicans against it.

Although the breakdown between parties is significant, that is transcended by the fact of the massive national consensus registered through Congress in favour of the principle of federal intervention in support of equality of opportunity, both in the private and public sectors, for all citizens, irrespective of colour.

That is what the Civil Rights Restoration Act is about. That is what the president has been trying to kill. He failed comprehensively. In each one of the nation's regions, and in almost every state, a majority of public representatives voted to override the presidential veto. The civil rights achievements of the third quarter of the 20th century may now be regarded as firmly established, at the end of nearly eight years of determined presidential efforts to repeal a large part of those achievements. That fact is of greater moment for the future of the United States than is the outcome of the coming presidential elections, whatever it may be. Yet the vote has also a bearing on the elections.

I watched George Bush on television the day of the crucial vote in Congress. Bush protested his "personal commitment" to the civil rights cause. He made it sound like a personal commitment to the toothache. This was understandable because, as well as declaring his commitment to civil rights, Bush was also declaring his support for the presidential veto of the Civil Rights Restoration Act. This will not hurt Bush any for the Republican nomination, but it could



just possibly cost him the presidency of the United States. A recent *New York Times* poll showed the Democrats' Michael Dukakis running level with Bush, if those were the two candidates. The poll seems to have been taken before that civil rights vote and Bush's adoption of a position that runs counter to manifest national consensus. This will not matter unless the Democrats can get their act together, but it does give the Democrats an added incentive to do that.

As with civil rights, so with

Central America; the Democrats are happy and the White House in disarray after the most recent developments. The Contra leadership, it seems, did not even bother to inform the US Administration that it was about to do a deal with the Sandinistas. While George Schultz, the Secretary of State, has called the agreement an important "step forward", the president's National Security Adviser, Lieutenant-General Colin L. Powell, has made clear that this was one step forward he didn't know was being taken.

By signing an agreement with "the Nicaraguan government" the Contras have — as *The New York Times* put it last Friday — "agreed to recognize Sandinista rule and the legitimacy of President Daniel Ortega Saavedra". The Contras also, under this accord, have agreed to cut themselves off from any form of direct aid from the United States. Against all that, the Sandinista concessions — release of prisoners, freedom of return, freedom of expression — can bring little joy to Reagan.

Most Americans are pleased,

since they never cared for the Nicaraguan war, and since the peace accord seems to preclude "another Vietnam". So the Democrats can afford to look pleased, and try to take some credit.

For the Republicans, things are more complicated. To seem to be "against peace" looks an unwelcome posture in an election year. On the other hand, a peace in Nicaragua that leaves the Sandinistas firmly in trouble could make plenty of trouble for George Bush with the Republican right, especially at a time when Colonel Oliver North is about to go on trial, although already declared to be innocent by the president.

"Reagan's America", always a loose expression, has been a misnomer since November 1986, when the Republicans became a minority in both houses of Congress. It has become much more clearly a misnomer by the end of March 1988 with the defeat on civil rights, closely followed by the public collapse of the president's Central America policy.

But if it isn't really "Reagan's America" any more, can Reagan hand it on to George Bush? How much are those famous "coat tails" worth? Quite a lot, obviously, among the Republican faithful, those who vote in primaries and attend caucuses. It is the coat-tail effect, and that alone, which has carried George Bush through almost to the nomination and should secure it for him. Whether those coat tails can win him the presidency is another matter. It is worth remembering that in November 1986 those Republican congressional candidates who were most obviously depending on the presidential coat tails were those who fell flat on their faces.

For the first time, I begin to think it just possible that a Democratic candidate might actually win in November. Provided... I should like to look at that "provided" in a later article.

Commentary • DIGBY ANDERSON

Academic discipline

These are good days in which to have a degree. Demand for graduates exceeds supply in almost every subject, and especially in chemistry, biotechnology, business and information services. Recruitment patterns contradict the scare-mongering which suggests that "industry", once allowed a say in education, will promote a narrow vocationalism.

Studying for a degree is a good investment for the student. It brings an interesting job with higher status, earnings and pensions over some 50 years. Why should this investment be subsidised? Why should working people earning wages a fraction of what graduates will earn pay taxes to subsidize them?

The clear and continuous evidence that the grant system is indeed a transfer of income from the less to the more fortunate is one reason why it has been criticized and loans advocated as a replacement; the Government is widely expected soon to announce a loan scheme.

It should think again. What it is reported as favouring is not a loans scheme but a mixed system of grants and loans, in which course fees are still funded by grants. The student will be required to pay and borrow only a small proportion of his maintenance expenses, which in fact he does already. This minimal change will do little to redress the unfairness of the grant system. Nor will it redress its other failings.

The advocates of loans — proper loans — support them not just because they are fairer. By asking students to pay for the courses which so benefit them, loan funding makes it in the student's interest to see that he is getting value for his own money,

and thus exerts a discipline on the university.

Of course, universities discipline themselves. But there is evidence that some extra discipline is required. For instance, a study published tomorrow (*Seeds of Bankruptcy*, Claridge Press) finds after a detailed analysis of materials used on them that sociology courses are "substantially biased" against a free society and, more specifically, neglectful and prejudiced in their treatment of industry, the market, profit, competition and advertising. It is no trivial matter. The author, Professor Marsland, estimates that more than a quarter of a million students a year are subject to such prejudice, and sociology is increasingly a component of professional courses for teachers, social workers, scientists, management trainees, engineers, architects and even policemen.

The problem is not just the bias revealed courageously 11 years ago by another senior sociologist, Professor Julius Gould, a hostility to parliamentary democracy and apparently unlimited faith in communism and collectivism. Marsland finds much evidence of this too: one of the most widely used books still praises the Cultural Revolution. Another text explains how "the centrally planned economy" in Russia and China is a "great success" and though there have been "mistakes" and "hardships" is "almost certainly in the interests of the people eventually". But more specifically the problem is denigration of profit, an obsession not so much with poverty as inequality, and contempt for work and the work ethic.

I think Marsland is too gloomy. A study of current soci-

ology journals suggests the most blatant Marxist proselytization is over. And there are good sociology departments which have been unfairly tarnished by the antics of others. Nor is sociology the only discipline to have been corrupted. "Education" might repay scrutiny.

But the point is this. The indiscipline analyzed has been going on for over 20 years now, largely untouched by the universities' internal disciplinary procedures. The anti-business ideologies remain secure by tenure. The Government's half-hearted reform of that will not touch those guaranteed a job for life before the reform.

These complications mean that Marsland is quite wrong to think that an inquiry, presumably by the Government, is the answer. It would either find nothing, or damage reputable sociology. What is required is discriminating, external discipline. It should come partly from employers looking carefully to see, not which disciplines their applicants and students have studied, but the content of their courses and where they have studied: they should collaboratively extend the rudimentary blacklist which once existed.

But, most of all, it is the students who need to be motivated to examine the worth of their courses. They will do so when they pay for them themselves. This necessary discipline will be enhanced if they borrow the money not from a government lending a small amount at artificial rates and with all sorts of manipulative social exclusions, but from those for whom banking is a business — banks.

The author is Director of The Social Affairs Unit.

SCIENCE REPORT

Current account

New Orleans

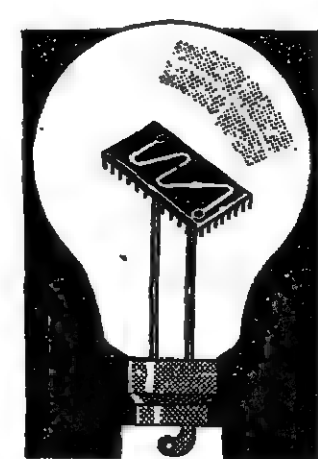
Electrical voltages can now be measured with an accuracy of one part in 10,000 million, a huge improvement over previous methods, which could do little better than 1 per cent. This achievement was described at last week's American Physical Society meeting here by Richard Kantz of the US National Bureau of Standards in Boulder, Colorado.

The technique involves combining quantum mechanics, superconductivity and microchip technology and hangs on a recondite prediction of theoretical physics known as the Josephson effect, which has thus progressed from Nobel Prize to practical device in only 15 years.

The art of measurement in science is generally underappreciated. Theories can be tested and compared only as precisely as laboratory experiments allow, and that precision ultimately rests on scientists' ability to agree on the exact meaning of a metre, second, kilogram or volt.

The three basic electrical units — volts, amperes (to measure the flow of electric current) and ohms (resistance to its flow) — have always raised the difficulty of specifying how one of them should be defined without first knowing at least one of the others.

For example, electrical power, the arithmetical product of voltage and current, can be measured as the brightness of a light bulb or the mechanical power of a motor, but a volt cannot be defined without an independent means of defining



the ampere. A way is needed to generate an electrical voltage from other quantities which are known or easily measured.

The Josephson effect in superconductors, for which the British physicist Brian Josephson won his Nobel prize in 1972, does just that.

A superconductor transmits electric current without resistance because electrons can move unimpeded. If a small gap is made in an ordinary electrical circuit, no current will flow. But in a superconducting circuit with a gap, quantum mechanics, under the terms of which it is impossible to say precisely where a single particle may be, predicts that an electron on one side of the gap has some chance of finding itself on the other. An electric current can therefore "tunnel" through even a perfectly insulating barrier.

Josephson predicted that effect and also that a loop of

superconductor with a small gap, in a beam of radio waves, would develop a voltage across the gap which depended only on the frequency of the radio waves and some fundamental natural constants. The size of the loop, the gap, or the material from which it is made, are irrelevant.

Kantz and his colleagues assembled on a microchip as many as 19,000 tiny, connecting Josephson loops. The chip was placed in liquid helium, to make the circuits superconducting, and put in a sophisticated microwave oven whose radiation frequency could be accurately controlled. By adding the tiny voltages generated by each loop, the device produced an overall voltage which could be varied from a 10th of a volt to 10 volts simply by changing the frequency of the microwaves.

The devices are small, portable and easy to use. Any physics laboratory or industrial manufacturer will be able to produce its own accurate reference voltages, rather than sending voltmeters to Colorado periodically for lengthy and complicated calibration.

But though the fundamental constants of classical physics are best defined using novel ideas from quantum mechanics, the accuracy arises because processes of measurement have been reduced to counting (in this case of a frequency). This "analogue-to-digital" converter improves laboratory physics as much as it does hi-fi technology.

DAVID LINDLEY

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OPEN THE SHOPS

The Government is to refer to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission certain work practices in the television industry. Behind that announcement on Monday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, lies the possibility of change as big as the legal curbs which have been placed on strike practices everywhere. It could mean that the Government is at last doing something about enforced overmanning and the closed shop.

At first glance, it would be reasonable to reply that it is up to employers to do something about overmanning. If they think they are employing too many people, they can always dismiss some. Some hold employers in especially notorious industries, such as at TV-AM at present, do from time to time try to bring the size of their workforce into line with their needs. But if overmanning is enforced by coercive means — such as a closed shop which prevents employers from employing whom they wish and regulates entry into employment — then government has a role as guarantor of the citizens' right to employ, and be employed by, whom they wish.

If workers strike, the Government's industrial relations legislation means that they can no longer rely on secondary action in other firms and on unrestrained picketing. Yet the Government has seemed till now to be more worried about coercion when union members are not working than when they are. The closed shop is as much part of the old order of industrial relations as was mass picketing and the secondary strike.

The Prime Minister recently described union power in television as "the last bastion of restrictive practices". She forgot about the motor industry, and quite a few other industries which her supposed revolution or counter-revolution have so far spared. Still, television is a good place to start — as has been recently proved by the TV-AM dispute, which is about overmanning and the ridiculous rates of pay commanded by a greedy union, and by

London Weekend's enforced cancellation of a £4.5 million drama series because of the manning levels which the television unions demanded.

Mr Fowler has acted under a previously forgotten section of a Fair Trading Act passed late in the Heath Government of 1970-74. The section allows the Government to refer to the MMC specified union practices to determine whether they are restrictive. This is welcome in that it might establish in the public mind the notion that the trade in labour is as much a trade as in other any commodity. It should not be under the control of a monopoly. Unions, when they act coercively, are labour monopolies.

But action against closed shops will do nothing to help the Government counter critics of its most recent industrial relations legislation — the 1988 Employment Bill at present in the Lords. This prohibits unions from disciplining their members who cross picket lines when a majority by secret ballot has voted to strike.

On the face of it, this is a defence of the individual's right to freedom of action, and to make any bargain he wishes with an employer. But it also undermines the principle of the secret ballot — a principle which the Government has made the cornerstone of its trade union reform. The Engineering Employers Federation and the Institute of Personnel Management are among the bodies which have pointed this out.

Such bodies cannot see the logic of denying unions the right to discipline members of an organization which they have freely joined. But it is essential that their joining should have been genuinely free. No group of workers should have the right to enforce a pre-employment closed shop which grants employment only to workers who are members of a particular union. Such coercive power is a more than fit subject for the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

MITTERRAND UNDERSTANDS

The personalities adopted in the French presidential election are clear. M. Mitterrand, the serene father of his people; M. Chirac, the tough manager; M. Barre, the professor-type who may not be charismatic but who knows about economics. And the issues? So far, the personalities are the issues.

This does not mean that a renewed Mitterrand presidency would be the same as a Chirac or Barre presidency. True, M. Mitterrand would not show the same interest as M. Chirac in such Anglo-Saxon fashions as privatization, though M. Barre — who now has little chance of election — would show far more interest than either. There would be foreign policy differences, but not following a conventional left-right pattern.

As President, M. Mitterrand, the nominal man of the left, has been more wary of the Soviet Union, and more co-operative with other Western powers, than the government of his centre-right predecessor, M. Giscard d'Estaing — of which M. Chirac was for a while Prime Minister.

M. Mitterrand was contemptuous of the then President Giscard's attempts to act as a mediator between East and West. He described the then President, after a piece of attempted Giscardian bridge-building in Poland, as "the telegraph boy of Warsaw". As President, M. Mitterrand has not gone in for that sort of thing himself.

This has to do with French electoral politics. Voters electing a left-of-centre government were prepared to tolerate communists at home — seeing them as part of an old French radical tradition, and being satisfied that French democratic institutions were strong enough to contain them. But a presidential candidate who in 1981 was allied to the communists at home, and who therefore had to include them in his first government, could not appear too close to communists in the Soviet Union.

The main reason for the unfocused campaign so far, however, is the strange death of

socialism — as an issue between presidential candidates — in the country of the world's origin. M. Mitterrand's election as a socialist in 1981 now looks more and more anomalous.

It happened during a few years when, in most other leading Western countries, the left-of-centre party was losing office rather than gaining it. Mr James Callaghan replaced by Mrs Thatcher, Mr Carter by Mr Reagan, Herr Schmidt by Herr Kohl. It had more in keeping with the socialist victories at that time in the Iberian peninsula and Greece, which meant it was unlikely to last — France being hardly a typical southern European country. France soon joined in the western democracies' 1980s revolt against interventionist government.

But in France the revolt was participated in by the President elected on the policy being revolted against. M. Mitterrand, after his first couple of years of nationalizations and threats against private education, retreated into pluralism. Socialism was to him what Algeria was to de Gaulle: the vehicle by which, after years out of office, he finally won power.

He was always an ambiguous socialist. The early parties with which he allied himself were not recognized as truly socialist by those rival politicians who were. He was, however, a more impressive figure than most of his rivals. When a big new socialist party was formed in the 1970s, he offered his services as leader and was gratefully accepted — an act equivalent to de Gaulle's ambiguous "Je vous ai compris" to the Algerian settlers whom he later abandoned.

M. Mitterrand understands the socialists. He understood that they once had enough votes to elect him President, and he understands now that — because of that 1980s anti-socialist revolt of which his original election was mysteriously not a part — they do not have enough votes to re-elect him. Little about socialism is being heard from M. Mitterrand in this campaign, which is why M. Chirac and M. Barre are finding it harder to beat him than they once thought.

AIR RIVALRIES

The decision by the American-based chemicals multinational, Du Pont, to phase out production of CFC gases by the beginning of the next century is greatly to be welcomed. For many years scientific evidence has been accumulating on the link between these artificially-produced gases and the depletion of the ozone layer in the atmosphere.

The ozone layer hinders ultraviolet rays, which contribute to skin cancer in people and animals, from reaching the earth. The depletion is chiefly evident over the Antarctic, but there are also signs of it in the northern hemisphere.

It is feared too that CFC gases contribute to the overheating of the world's climate, the so-called "greenhouse effect". The gases, which are used in foam packaging, refrigeration, and aerosols, rise into the atmosphere where they stubbornly remain.

The United States has long been in the forefront of the movement for their abolition. The attitude of the British Government, by contrast, has been lackadaisical. Until last summer, there was strong official resistance — based largely on figures found subsequently to be out of date — to admitting the force of the scientific evidence.

British chemical companies, led by ICI, are now saying that they would welcome a worldwide ban on CFCs, given suitable time to

develop alternatives. Their influence on the Government seems, however, to have been in the opposite direction. Public pressure over this issue will have to be maintained.

Last September, Great Britain and 37 other countries signed the Montreal Protocol. This called for reduction in CFCs by the year 2000 of only 35 per cent. So far, however, only the United States and Mexico have ratified it. Eleven countries need to do so for it to come into force. The British Government should speedily give a lead to other European countries which have been dragging their heels.

It would be helpful too if Du Pont gave a definite date by which production will be ended. The company has not suddenly become a chemical saint. It no doubt reckoned that public pressure in America, and the danger of being sued there in "public interest cases" would sooner or later make production of CFCs impossible.

Du Pont is also believed to be far ahead of its competitors — ICI included — in its development of alternatives to CFCs. So it has a certain commercial advantage in pressing for their abolition. This is not a reproach to Du Pont, rather to the European firms which through indifference to public concern and scientific evidence have let their American rivals steal a march on them.

War memorials

From Mrs B. N. Nunn Sir, In compiling an inventory of war memorials it should be remembered that not all are sculpted monuments.

Deal's memorial to those who died in the 1914-18 war is its hospital, built by public subscri-

tion: the names of those who gave their lives are recorded on boards inside the building and a volume containing the names of those who died in World War II will be on display in the hospital shortly.

The fact that the hospital is such a memorial gives an extra dimension to our fight to save its accident and emergency unit,

which serves the town and adjoining rural community and which is currently under threat of closure.

Yours faithfully,
GERTRUDE NUNNS
(Chairman, The Deal Society),
115 Sandown Road,
Deal, Kent.
March 24.

Why draw line on boundaries?

From the Chairman of the Association of District Councils Sir, On April 1, 1986, the Greater London Council was abolished. Does anyone now notice any adverse consequences? On April 1, 1990, Ilea is due to disappear. Again, one can predict that few of the alleged disadvantages will materialise.

In both cases, however, the benefits promised by the Government — greater economy, efficiency and responsiveness to the needs of communities — are, and will be, increasingly evident.

This association's only reservation in relation to the Government's policy on Ilea is to question why the line has been drawn at London's boundaries. If Westminster, with a population of 182,000 is seen as competent to run its own education service, why not Bristol with a population of 396,000? Nottingham with 279,000 residents? After all, like many other districts, those cities were experienced education authorities up until 1974.

But our policy goes far wider than education. We want county councils to be replaced by a single tier of most-purpose, district-based councils. This would improve accountability and budgeting. It would eliminate waste and duplication. It would provide tighter management of services and give local people better value for money.

Whether, as *The Times* has suggested (report, March 15), the Government are positively planning such a reform, only its members know. But if it is not on their agenda, it certainly should be.

Yours faithfully,
ROY THOMSON, Chairman,
Association of District Councils,
8 Buckingham Gate, SW1,
March 22.

Peterhouse plaint

From Lord Dacre of Glanton Sir, I have always assumed that anyone who claims to be a gentleman (1) does not make trouble, (2) does not publish private conversations. Lord St John of Fawley (Diary, March 25) evidently does not make this claim.

I am forced by his remarks to say that his statements are quite wrong. My friends know that I have never made any criticism of the governing body of Peterhouse, with which I have the most friendly relations, although some individuals, who have not hesitated to publish their dislike of me in the press, can hardly complain if I have sometimes commented on them in private conversation. Yours faithfully,
Dacre of GLANTON,
The Old Rectory,
Didcot, Oxfordshire.
March 25.

West Riding days

From Mr S. L. Whiteley Sir, Between 1913 and 1926 (my earliest years) we lived for four years in Bolton and for the rest in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The forests of cotton and wool-mill chimneys, many over 200 ft high, poured out smoke from coal-fired boilers week in, week out (except for Wakes Week).

In the houses the kitchen fire burned continuously, being banked-up at night with smouldering "slack". Most houses would light a sitting-room fire on all but the warmest days.

People travelled and transported their loads by trains hauled by coal-burning engines. I remember holidays on the north-east coast with the sight and smell of the colourful emissions from Billingham and Cango Fleets.

Elsewhere the pot banks, brick kilns, coking ovens, pit heaps and foundries had, for perhaps 100 years and more, been fouling the atmosphere.

Yet there were leaves on the trees and fish in the rivers and lakes. The countryside, with its woods in which to skirmish with Red Indians and the Sheriff of Nottingham's men and his streams for catching sticklebacks and frog spawn, was a good — and safe — place for a boy to muck about in.

Perhaps even then Scandinavian forests and fish were a-dying (an unconscionable time) from Britain's acid rains. Certainly the prevailing winds were the same then as now. However, nobody seems actually to have called us the Dirty Man of Europe. Yours faithfully,
SAM WHITELEY,
8 Stonehaven Court,
Knole Road,
Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex.
March 25.

Flat out

From Lieutenant R. K. Ellis, RN Sir, Allow me to reassure Mrs Woods (March 21) that "longitudinal studies of cognitive changes in old age" does not refer to a sinister attempt to track the geographical position of her mind as she grows older.

In a "longitudinal" study a group of individuals are tested at regular intervals to allow assessment of the way they change. "Cognitive changes" refer to the development of mental functions such as IQ and memory.

I trust that this translation from research-speak to English will set Mrs Woods's mind at rest. Yours faithfully,
R. K. ELLIS,
64 Broadway Parade,
West Drayton, Middlesex.
March 21.

Time for taking by the forelock

From Mr J. R. Anderson Sir, The orchestrated campaign to harmonise clocks in the EEC, launched by Lord Young and now joined by the business sector and RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) should be resisted vigorously.

A three-year experience of this proposal (1968-71) proved a dismal failure and there is no valid reason why the community at large (particularly those in Scotland and the North of England) should be subject to this self-imposed misery. If a time differential of one hour is such a burden, how comes it that businessmen in the United States have managed to cope successfully with much greater discrepancies so successfully?

The attitude of RoSPA is also curious. A spokesman said on television this morning that it was thought that accidents in the evening would be reduced because drivers are more tired then. What, please, is the evidence arising from the earlier experiment? A more compelling argument is that children will be forced to make their way to school in darkness with increased hazards, not merely from road accidents but also from the risk of being attacked. Yours sincerely,
J. R. ANDERSON,
4 Vardon Drive,
Wilmot, Cheshire.
March 24.

From Mr George Clark Sir, In claiming that four hours are wasted each day by the difference between GMT and European time, the CBI are getting their arithmetic wrong. The correct figure is only two hours. They are adding the two hours unavailable to the British to the two hours unavailable to the Continentals, whereas they are the same two hours.

If we assume similar office hours in London and Paris for example of 9 am to 5 pm, with a lunch break from 1 pm to 2 pm, we get a possible seven hours. Of these, 9 am to noon and 2 pm to 4 pm are common, giving a total of five out of seven.

It is unjust that the whole country should be inconvenienced for the sake of the few, especially as a simple remedy is in their own hands. All they have to do is to alter their own hours of work. Yours faithfully,
GEORGE CLARK,
36 Spencer Road,
Paignton, Devon.
March 24.

From Mr Anthony J. Cooper Sir, All those who, like myself, suffered from the experiment of using "British Standard Time" 20 years ago must be appalled at the idea of trying it again.

As a City worker living in the outer suburbs I reckon that if summer time is used throughout the winter I will have to travel both to and from work in the dark for three months in the year, only seeing the daylight during the working week at lunchtime.

Why should the public at large put up with this simply so that a few businessmen can telephone their opposite numbers on the Continent without allowing for the time difference? I am, Sir, etc.,
A. J. COOPER,
78 Brookmans Avenue,
Brookmans Park,
Hatfield, Hertfordshire.
March 24.

From Mr Peter D. Rossdale Sir, The effort devoted by Mr Sydney Shenton, and the prominence and space devoted to his letter (March 22), would surely have been better directed towards persuading those who are able to retain more earned income, because of the Budget, to make targeted donations to people less fortunate than themselves.

Voluntary redistribution of wealth by provision of employment and, where this is not practical, support of individuals through charitable and other channels, is a much more imaginative method than rendering money to the Inland Revenue without any knowledge of the efficacy of its application; if indeed it ever reaches its target at all.

One simple idea would be for all those whose consciences are, rightly, troubled to approach their local medical and hospital authorities to ascertain the help that might be provided in their immediate area, regarding those in need within or outside the NHS. Yours sincerely,
PETER D. ROSSDALE,
Romey House,
Dullingham Road,
Newmarket, Suffolk.
March 22.

British authorities over the Stalker affair and Sir Patrick Mayhew's decision to suspend the law with regard to the police.

Dr O'Brien may be right to be suspicious of Mr Haughey's motives and actions, but arguing in such a slapdash way will convince few. Yours faithfully,
JAMES O'TOOLE,
Parnell Street, Thurles,
Co. Tipperary,
Republic of Ireland.
March 23.

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist Sir, I reckon that during the past 10 days British politicians have denounced the exploitation of funerals by the IRA as "obscene" on some 40 occasions. It is as if our leaders had only just woken up to what the IRA is and does.

In 1914 the British Admiralty found that, contrary to their expectations, the transporting of German warships to submarine warfare against our merchant navy. The word "obscene" was not yet available for use in such a context, but great play was made on the British side with words like "illegal" and "inhuman".

It was only in 1917, with Britain only a few weeks away from starvation, that rhetoric was reluctantly replaced by effective action (the convoy system) and the country was saved. Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GILCHRIST,
Arthur's Crag,
Hazelbank,
By Lanark.
March 25.

Slightly confused

From Mr A. C. White Sir, May I add to the catalogue of mis-dictions recently started in your letters (March 21, 25)? In about 1962, in a firm in East Anglia making photographic film base, I was determining how many seconds it took to dissolve pieces of film in alkali, and used the phone-borne remote dictation service to write up my table of results.

The column heading, "Time for complete dissolution", came back as "Time for complete dissolution".

I would love to know if the unknown, unseen, audio-typist, whom of course I imagined as young, nubile, about to start on life's path, did that accidentally or deliberately. Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER WHITE,
308 Newton Road,
Rushden,
Northamptonshire.
March 25.

Call for debate on genetic risks

From Dr M. J. G. Thomas

Sir, Your obituary for Mr Patrick Steptoe (March 23) correctly pointed out that the ethical dilemmas surrounding *in-vitro* fertilisation were foreseen by Mr Steptoe and his co-workers 10 years before the birth of Louise Brown. The problem was that no-one would take him seriously, preferring to see this as an extension of Huxley's *Brave New World*. Consequently no informed public debate took place and the medical profession were faced with a scientific *fait accompli* without the support of knowing how the public would react.

Unfortunately we have not learnt from this experience and are in danger of making the same mistake again with genetic engineering. The British public must decide now which practices will, and which will not be acceptable; so that the medical profession can direct its research along lines which are ethically sound. Yours faithfully,
M. J. G. THOMAS (Member of Board of Science and Education),
British Medical Association,
BMA House,
Tavistock Square, WCI.
March 28.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 30 1910

Lady Constance Lytton (1869-1928), second daughter of the first Earl of Lytton, sometimes Viceroy of India, was a militant suffragist who was imprisoned on more than one occasion. This letter was written to *The Times* by her brother, the second Earl of Lytton.

LADY CONSTANCE LYTTON AND THE HOME OFFICE

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—On February 10 a letter was sent to the Press by Sir Edward Troup, relative to a statement made by my sister Lady Constance Lytton regarding her treatment in Liverpool Prison, in which he declared on behalf of the Home Secretary that there was no foundation for any of the charges which she had made. I am anxious to explain why this official imputation of untruthfulness has hitherto remained unanswerable.

Lady Constance was seriously ill at the time as the result of her prison experiences, and unable to defend herself. I therefore undertook the task of vindicating her veracity. Before making any public statement on her behalf I was anxious to find out what steps had been taken by the Home Office to investigate the matters referred to in her statement.

I have had several communications with the Home Office on the subject, and owing to the retirement of Mr. Gladstone and the appointment of a new Home Secretary they have necessarily been protracted over a considerable period. My attitude throughout has been entirely conciliatory, and the only claim which I have made was that in the interests of justice charges of this nature should be submitted to a full and impartial inquiry. This claim has been refused by the Home Office on the grounds that the prison officials have been closely interrogated, and that they deny entirely every one of the charges made, "no useful purpose would be served" by granting my request.

In the absence of such an inquiry as I asked for the matter must be left to the opinion of unbiased minds. The idea that her charges can be disposed of by the bare denial of the persons against whom they are made is not likely to commend itself to anyone outside the Home Office, and no amount of denial can get over the following facts:—

1. Lady Constance Lytton, when imprisoned in Newcastle, after refusing to answer the medical questions put to her and adopting the hunger strike, received a careful and thorough medical examination, which disclosed symptoms of "serious heart disease", and on these grounds she was released as unfit to submit to further feeding.

2. Three months later "Jane Warton", when imprisoned at Liverpool, also refused to answer medical questions or to take prison food. On this occasion she was entered in the prison books as having refused medical examination, and was forcibly fed eight times. Such medical examination as took place during the forcible feeding failed, according to the medical officer's report, to disclose any symptoms of heart disease.

These facts are incontrovertible, and though the Home Office is quite satisfied that in both cases the prison officials performed their duty in the most exemplary fashion, your readers will form their own opinions of the justice of a Government Department which conceals accusations of untruthfulness against an individual whilst refusing that only means by which the truth can be established.

I am, your obedient servant,
LYTTON.

THE ARTS

Howard's way

Four years after it was first seen at the Lyric Hammersmith in a production by Harold Pinter, Simon Gray's *The Common Pursuit* returns to London in a new version directed by the author and already acclaimed in America.

This also marks the first production by Howard Panter since he formed the Turnstile Group, a remarkable partnership of theatrical landlords, producers, directors and actors designed, among other objectives, to counter the accusation from many of us that the commercial West End has no coherent artistic policy or continuity of any kind.

Panter is 39, and has come up through the management side of the business: the son of an EMI director of engineering, he started by running an amateur theatre group and by the time he left LAMDA was already a lighting designer for London Contemporary Dance. He also pioneered the Soho Poly with Verity Bargate, and can still point to a stage personally constructed plank by plank.

By the early 1970s he had directed at the Traverse and the King's Head, and was running the theatre at the ICA: "I had my fun directing plays and earned my living as a lighting designer; but my interest was always in management, and after I'd worked with Tony Richardson at the Round House, I went as an assistant first to Michael Codron and then to Eddie Kullback.

"In those days you got £15 for directing a play on the fringe and £30 for being the company manager, so I preferred managing. Having been at the sharp end of production, and seeing a lot of my friends dying on the wire, I came to realize that most theatre man-

Howard Panter wants to do for the West End theatre what Terence Conran did for style.

Sheridan Morley talks to the producer of Simon Gray's play

The Common Pursuit

agers (except the ones I worked for) didn't have the faintest idea what they were doing, so I thought maybe there was room for me."

Panter's credits as a producer or co-producer range from *Trafford* and *Bullseye* through *When I Was A Girl I Used To* and *Scream and Shout* and more recently *Curtains* and *Separation*.

Like Robert Fox, he belongs to a Codron-inspired generation of West End managers who believe that plays need to be developed and nurtured rather than simply presented, but who have found it increasingly difficult to operate as the artistic directors of theatres in which they have no territorial stake or permanence.

"For a long time I've wanted to link productions and buildings in the West End, and for that you need three elements: a development fund, a production company and a playhouse. All need to be under one umbrella but to keep their separate identities.

"Within Turnstile we have my own production company, as well as United British Artists, who will supply the actors, artistic directors like Michael Attenborough and the Simons, Callow and Stokes. "But then we also have a property company, and Keith

Prowse for ticket selling, and the landlords of the Comedy and the Phoenix Theatres. The plan is that we all work together, so that a play can be taken from the very first draft on the typewriter, right through to the final Hollywood film."

He explained further: "Consider a play like *Educating Rita*: it went through all kinds of different management on its journey from the RSC fringe to the West End and then Hollywood. We plan to be able to do all of that within the same company.

"I'd like to do for the theatre what Terence Conran has done for style: he knew that you had to combine the product with the marketing, and that for quality work in commercial buildings there has to be some overall control.

"One of our new partners is the chain that owns the Curzon cinemas, and what they've done recently in upgrading London filmgoing I think we have to do for theatre: you may not like all their movies, but at least you know you are never paying for rubbish.

"Habitat and Next and Virgin seem to point the way forward to a coherent marketing structure, and I think the theatre has got to take account of that: develop a quality brand identity, if that phrase isn't too awful.

"For too long within the West End there has been a division between the people who own the theatres and the people who put on the shows. That has to stop.

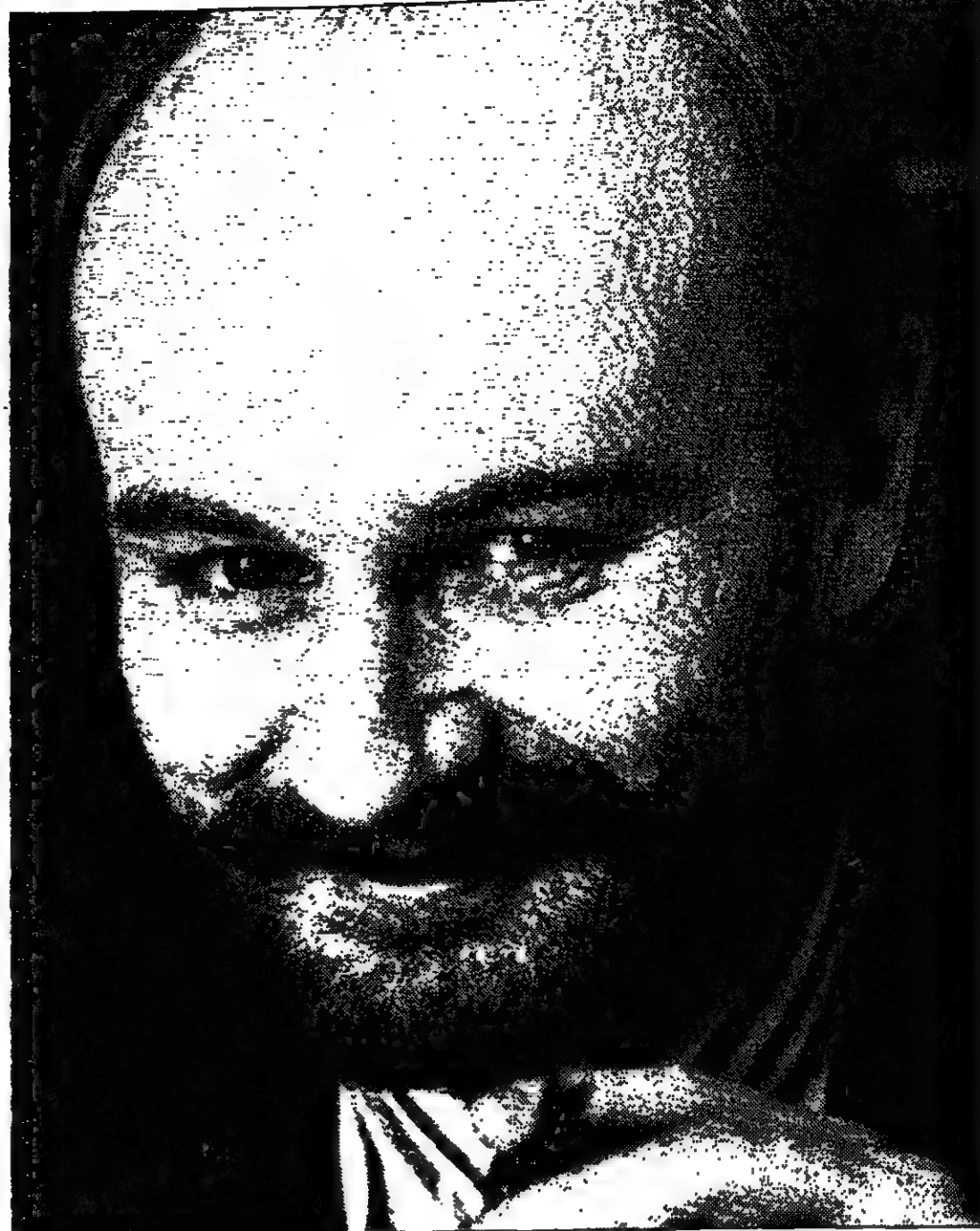
"The West End has for too long been in a feast-and-famine situation, with no money spent on research or development. If we were in computers, we'd be bankrupt by now."

Panter's casting of *The Common Pursuit* (an everyday story of literary magazine folk) with a new generation of "alternative" television comedians (Rik Mayall, John Sessions, Stephen Fry) suggests a kind of lateral thinking which clearly extends to his future projects, ranging as these do from an off-Broadway import with Richard Dreyfuss, through a Marie Stoppes drama, *Married Love*, to the Kenneth Branagh Renaissance Company's Shakespeare tour, which has just begun in Birmingham.

But Turnstile, which already has a Broadway audience in the Jujamcyn Group who own five major theatres there, is the main objective.

"None of us had to do this: we all came together out of real experience, and because we knew that something drastic had to be done if the West End was to survive as anything other than a museum of old musicals."

● *The Common Pursuit* is now previewing at the Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road. It opens on April 7.



Conran of the stage? Howard Panter is bringing together all aspects of theatrical production and marketing

TELEVISION

Another round?

The Kyril in *Codename Kyril* (ITV), HTV's two-night spy thriller, based on a novel by John Trehan, fulfilled the expectations of grateful writers by being — at least as far as KGB movies go — a nice one.

Played by Ian Charleson with a subtlety matching accent and a fashionably tinted designer's style of a haircut, Kyril showed unmistakably human emotions. He even cried when the English girl he loved was injected to death by a less empathetic Soviet hit-man.

Not that our Kyril did not have a bit of a mean streak. He crucified the hit-man to the floor with barbed wire for his pains.

Though the camera tastefully averted its gaze from some of the more pointed details of this blasphemous torture, some viewers no doubt welcomed such simple expressions of love, hate and fear. For *Codename Kyril*, like *Smiley's People* cleverly scripted by John Hopkins, continued the Le Carré television game of baffling the viewer.

The technique, however, was amusingly different from the extended mole-hunting of *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*. Instead of bemoaning us by withholding information, we were confused by having too much — the identity of the Russian and British mole and of all the competing factions in both the secret services.

The problem was not only remembering what we knew, but what each character did not know. The production was blessed with a very strong cast and Ian Sharp's direction kept a brisk pace and convincingly orchestrated the trapped terror of Kyril's girl awaiting her fatal prick. But *Codename Kyril* could not prevent the feeling that we have giddily gone in spy circles once too often.

Andrew Hislop

Optimistic airs: upstate and upbeat

Stephen Pettitt reports from Buffalo, New York, on this year's North American New Music Festival



Hypnotic fringe show: Stephen Pettitt in *Musica for Words*

It would not be too wide of the mark to suggest that Buffalo approximates, both economically and architecturally, to Liverpool. The fortunes of New York State's second city, however, seem to have begun to turn. There is now an unmistakable optimism in the air, an optimism which was felt keenly in this year's North American New Music Festival, the largest and highest status event of its kind in America.

Some events were decidedly on the fringe, like the memorable evening called "Music for Words", when the actor Paul Schmidt, seated in the middle of a paddling pool and surrounded by empty beer bottles, read hypnotherapist, read hypnotherapist, accompanied by piano and guitar.

Like Arthur Warhol's "A Hundred Cans" and Jackson Pollock's "Convergence", two of the most celebrated possessions of the City's Albright-Knox Art Gallery (which houses an extraordinarily rich collection of Impressionist and 20th century art), the ideals of America's two musical idols, both of whom were in Buffalo to hear their own work, contrast starkly with one another.

On one side stands Elliott Carter, whose music is complex in detail and structure but is as straightforwardly absolute as Bach's. On the other reposes John Cage, anarchic, obscure, spiritual. In Buffalo, reverence seemed higher for Cage than for Carter, but then its university did employ the late Morton Feldman, specialist in beauties, long, spare and underdetermined.

Cage's lecture on anarchy, delivered in his monotonous drawl, was listened to with rapt attention. Most of those who heard it seemed unaware that it was an anarchic exercise in chance theory itself. If it was Cage, it must have been good.

Actually, much of the Cage we heard in the following concert was good. Isabelle Ganz and Caroline

space of two days. (Their presence, incidentally, was assisted by the British Council, which was also responsible for the coincident stimulating exhibition of avant garde British sculpture at the Albright-Knox).

The Arditi programme included all of Carter's four string quartets, and on the strength of their achievements here, it is good news that they are to record the cycle for Etcetera in June. They were also heard in the concert which included the Piano Sonata, superbly played by Stephen Maes, and the Cello Sonata, given by the admirable Rohan de-Saram and the indefatigable Yvar Mikhashoff, one of the Festival's two organizers.

The other, the percussionist Jan Williams, contributed readings both dextrous and thoroughly musical, of three of Carter's timpani pieces in another concert, while Caroline Plantamura sang *A Mirror on Which to Dwell* with eloquent understanding. Meanwhile, the festival had opened with celebratory Carter's *Holiday Overture* (1964) and the rather more celebratory *Some 100 X 150 Notes* (1987), by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra under Jesse Levine.

But, as I have already suggested, this is far from being all Carter and Cage. The Arditi impressed everyone with their ability to make the most of an ungratifying score like Bernard Shaw's scintillating *Pennamanta* as well as more rewarding works like David Felder's pithy *Third Face* and British quartets by Peter Paul Nash, Vic Hoyland, and Brian Ferneyhough (No. 3).

Then there was a Latin American evening which confirmed the attractiveness of the music of Roberto Sierra and of Tania Leon's surprising *A La Paz*, stamped with Anthony de Mare's virtuosity in Ricardo Lorenz's piano piece *Bachango* and that of Anthony Miranda in William Ortiz-Alvado's percussion piece *Urbanización* and entertained in Francis Schwartz's tongue-in-cheek *I Am the Drive*, complete with audience participation.

All that and Lou Harrison, Jon Gibson, Ben Neill, Kagel and Sylvano Bussotti's outrageous *Planobar pour Phaedre* besides, put this provocative, invaluable feast on a level with our own Almeida Festival.

Plantamura sang the doleful five-note *Litany for the Whale* with superb control, and the result was a minimalist piece charged, for once, with pathos.

Anthony de Mare, an excellent young pianist kept busy throughout the festival (who last year won the International Gaudemus Competition in Holland), gave us two songs for Frances-Marie Uitti delivered Cage's technically complex and meticulously notated *Etudes Boreales* and Giacinto Scelsi's *YGGHUR* with the impressive facility showed in Brighton last year in her performance of Per Norgaard's Cello Concerto.

Yet the central point of the festival was undoubtedly Carter's music, which can rarely have been performed as dazzlingly as it was by the touring Arditi Quartet, who gave three concerts and took a substantial part in a fourth in the

Raping The Gold Bush Theatre

In the past two years new work at this theatre has been of so consistently high a standard that a critic counts himself lucky when his turn comes to review the latest play here. This time the author is Lucy Gannon and the play, a detailed and subtle work powerfully fuelled by anger, is her first to receive a full stage production.

It is set on and around an archery field in a small town in Derbyshire shattered by unemployment. The main protagonists are two bowmen disputing the future of their club. Gabriel (Trevor Peacock), a former works manager, has discovered in the ritual of his bow the only beauty remaining in his stricken life; stubbornly clinging to his vision, he treats the proposal by the earnest school teacher (Paul Copley) to share the field with other sports as a blasphemy so vulgar he

Bullseye on first attempt

THEATRE

can barely speak for contempt. This traditional conflict between private need and public benefit is kept from being schematic by the lively details of character, supplied at first through the monologues of an admirable play that the death that inevitably occurs on the field should slide away from murder and suicide and be caused by a broken heart.

pin-pointing posers as he sits alone at his dining table, an empty wine glass beside his packet of cold chips.

The neatly integrated sub-plot joins together the gold-haired daughter (Sophie Thurstfield) and a black boy on the dole, once the star hope of his teachers but now consumed with inchoate rage. A performance of great integrity here by Paterson Joseph.

Debbie Shewell's production draws strong performances all down the line, including the pair of kidding youngsters, likeably played by Charlie Creed-Miles and Henry Woolley.

On the minute stage, Paul Brown has contrived to fit a leaf-scattered rectangle of artificial grass; and it is in tune with the underlying sorrow of an admirable play that the death that inevitably occurs on the field should slide away from murder and suicide and be caused by a broken heart.

Jeremy Kingston

Comedy done to death

Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 Greenwich



Feverish: Margaret Courtenay (left), Sheila Steafel and Simon Cadell

The comedy thriller never was much of an entertainment form, but during its West End heyday in the 1950s it offered a certain level of technical skill nowhere to be found in this New York exercise by John Bishop.

Comedy thrillers are supposed to offer a bargain: you get two shows for the price of one. Mr Bishop plays this the other way round: taking the starting point that there is no need for the plot to make sense as the whole thing is for laughs.

He sets the piece in a snow-bound Westchester mansion where the company of a recent Broadway flop are auditioning their next show to a banker. But as the author also wants to get some knowing laughs at the expense of musicals being written on the road, he switches to that gag at the expense of the audience.

In any case, by this time the banker, for reasons that never emerge, has been murdered.

The play's first priority is to cram in all the traditional paraphernalia: the isolated house, the disconnected phone, sliding panels, bodies in the library. These are all dramatically potent devices if they are properly introduced.

Bishop simply piles them in with no thought for preparation, suspense, or timing; and they pile up, along with the rumours of "The most unvarnished human being I have ever known or seen," said C.L.R. James of Paul Robeson. The problem, dramatically speaking, is that ideal human beings do not make ideal subjects for plays.

Robeson's magnificent gifts as athlete (the first black All-American footballer), actor and singer, and human qualities of intelligence and dignity, marked him out early as a public representative of black America. He learned to control his anger at white discrimination and violence in his teens, because his father (a Presbyterian pastor) had taught him that he was not alone — the millions of black boys who had not achieved what he was achieving were with him.

All this makes the first act of Andy Rashleigh's stage biography, dealing with Robeson's great period of success and social lionization in the 30s, long on period detail and short on dramatic power.

Nazi saboteurs, mysterious German twins, and awed memories of the "stage door slasher" who liquidated their erstwhile chorus-line, arousing no interest in what is going to happen next.

What remains is a feverish production by Peter Farago and an excellent company tackling their lifeless material with varying degrees of success.

There is at least one personal triumph, from Simon Butteriss, playing three German siblings, including an assassinated maid who keeps popping out of cupboards, and a former female impersonator who would have been at home in the Kit-Kat Club, now working as a meat-cleaver-wielding spy. Alone among the company, Butteriss is at once comic and dangerous.

Otherwise there is Tom Baker.

Paul Robeson — Song of Freedom Young Vic

The main event in it, Robeson's "affair" with Edwina Mountbatten, despite rather self-conscious echoes of Othello and Desdemona, seems singularly pointless: some of the blame for this must lie with Kate Lynne Evans, who gives Edwina the high cackling laugh and coy girliness of a nervous adolescent.

In the title role, Leon Herbert looks splendid but has difficulty giving Robeson any more palpable, breathing life than the statue of a negro in chains which stands in the corner of Marty Flood's grandiose set. The fact is that Robeson's public persona, unlike Othello's, was too firmly grounded to reveal any telling tragic flaws.

Redemption comes partly from

frugging like mad as a name-dropping director none of whose works has ever been released; and Simon Cadell, as the timid little comedian who becomes the hero of the hour, doing down the opposition with a rubber brandy bottle and obligatory references to "gills" and "moids".

Sheila Steafel has her moments as a flaky librettist, gripped by inspiration in the rare moments when she is not passing out at the sight of the latest body. Margaret Courtenay, as the Wagnerian hostess, launches her party with a carnivorous floating line: "This day will add a bone-chilling chapter to the Grossenkneuten annals".

A promising opening: would it had been fulfilled.

Irving Wardle

the negro spirituals (Leon Herbert reveals latent fire and all the low notes for "Old Man River"), but Vicky Licorish, who also plays Robeson's wife Estlanda, is still more gutsy and rhythmically alive; partly also from Max Harvey's Peter, third member of the Mountbatten ménage and played with a light fantastic humour which is both appealing and unexpected.

Dramatically the second act is more coherent and convincing, if only for the sad reason that it shows a man fallen from public grace, hounded by McCarthy's minions because of his sympathy with Russia. In grizzled older age Leon Herbert loses some of his earlier stiffness, and turns in his most exciting singing performance with "Jacob Ladder". Richard Williams's direction could be tightened up a couple of notches.

Harry Eyres

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

Her mother's keeper

Rita Hayworth was not an ideal mother but when she died one daughter stood by her side. Shirley Lowe met her

Princess Yasmin Khan had a rotten childhood. But what can you expect when your mother is labelled Hollywood's "Love Goddess" and your father is an international playboy? Rita Hayworth and Prince Aly Khan seem to have had too much of everything — looks, talent, money — to be happy. They were divorced when Princess Yasmin was three. There followed a "tug of love" battle, played out in the tabloids (at one point, Rita and Aly were on either side of Lake Tahoe, she with husband Dick Haymes, he with Gene Tierney, and the child went from one side to the other), a couple of unsatisfactory stepfathers, a court Jurisdiction Order when Rita was accused of neglecting her two young daughters, and the death of her father in a car crash, when she was 10 years old.

And yet, around the time when Joan Crawford's daughter and Bette Davis's daughter were crucifying their mothers in print, Princess Yasmin gave up a promising singing career to look after her mother, who was slowly dying of Alzheimer's, a degenerative brain disease. "Look, it's Rita," she would say, leading her mother to the mirror. But Rita Hayworth no longer knew who she was. "Sometimes she'd smile when I came into the room," says Princess Yasmin, "and then two words would come out and I'd wonder if she sometimes understood, but just couldn't articulate. That was why it was so important

to talk, to tell her what was happening, to touch her with love." It is nearly a year since Rita Hayworth died, 68 years old, bed-ridden, totally helpless, her mind a tragic blank. "I think about her a lot," Princess Yasmin says. "I do miss her. I miss my father, too."

Aged 38, she lives in a comfortable apartment in a Thirties block overlooking Central Park, with her two-year-old son, Andrew. She was married to Basil Embricos, the son of a Greek shipping family, in 1985 and divorced a few months ago.

The failure of her marriage has, she says firmly, nothing to do with her mother and everything to do with picking the wrong person. "I'm sorry it ended the way it did, but it was the only way, and healthier for Andrew than living in a bad situation for his sake."

There are photographs of Rita Hayworth on every shelf and bureau. Her daughter has inherited the heart-stopping smile and sparkling eyes, but none of the mother's fiery Spanish-Irish temperament. She is a quiet, shy woman and like so many children of immature parents, she seems always to have been the responsible adult of the family.

"Oh yes, I always felt responsible for mother," she says. "But when you're a child, a teenager, what can you do? She was so bad at the practical things of life. I mean, when she was driving a car, well, she couldn't actually drive properly, and she'd never be able to



"You can't blame your parents for who you are": Princess Yasmin, left, and Rita Hayworth before she succumbed to Alzheimer's disease

find the parking lot. I worried about the kind of people she was seeing, whether she went to her doctor and dentist regularly. I somehow always had the feeling that my mother was ill, all through my childhood I felt her frustration.

"Everyone thought that drink was mother's problem. She had a difficult time dealing with reality, and escaped into alcohol instead of talking to someone about it. She'd call me up at college and ask what I was doing and I'd tell her, and then two days later she'd call me again and ask the same question, and I'd say: 'I told you, mother.' And then she'd laugh about it. 'Silly me'... instead of saying: 'I'm losing my memory.'"

When doctors diagnosed Alzheimer's disease, Princess Yasmin was in Munich, auditioning for a conductor who offered her a job.

"I had a great decision. To continue with my career or go home and take care of my mother. Really, there was no choice for me." She settled her mother into the next door apartment and installed round-the-clock nursing care. Six years later, Rita Hayworth died. "Alzheimer's patients often become aggressive, she didn't mean, there were periods of agitation. We had to medicate her, give her strong to play with, something to do with her hands.

"Sacrifice? That's a big word and I don't relate to it. I just got on with my life and took care of my mother. But I was constantly feeling anger, guilt, helplessness. I kept asking myself: 'Why can't I do more to relieve her anguish?'" She spends part of every day



working for the American Alzheimer's Association, giving speeches, raising funds. It is sad, she says, that in Hollywood "no one will come out and say: 'I have a relative with Alzheimer's' — Aids, yes; Alzheimer's, no". And in Britain — where Alzheimer's affects 5 per cent of those over 65 — she says the problem is worse: "People will not even talk about it."

At 19, when she "realized I had to get rid of this black cloud on my shoulders", she had a brief period of analysis. "I went around and talked to doctors and tried to understand why I felt the way I did, and that knowledge has given me the strength I have now.

"I think my mother's sense of insecurity came from her childhood. She was disciplined in her work life, but not in her personal life. Alcoholism, drugs, all that is a

weakness, it's a crutch." She claps her hands delightedly when I tell her about Cheryl Crane's revelation, in her autobiography, that when she told her mother that she felt she had been a lesbian since the age of six, Lana Turner cried with relief. "You mean it's not environmental? You mean it wasn't my fault?"

"Oh, I love it. I do feel very much you can't go on blaming your parents for who you are. You have to take responsibility for yourself. That is maturity." But there is still a black cloud on her shoulder. Doctors believe that Alzheimer's may be inherited. "I live in fear that I might die the same way as my mother but what can I do? You can't stop life because you might have Alzheimer's, or get it."

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BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Rich diet for Easter

For the "never too rich or too thin" brigade, Tiffany in Old Road Street has Jean Schlumberger's Easter egg pendants of amethyst and rhodochrosite set in gold, from £700 to about £1,000. For the rest of us, Continental-style chocolate novelties will do. At Liberty, Italo Suisse white chocolate swans are £8.95, hens or rabbits £5.50 and foil-covered sheep 50p; Thornton's has several new rabbits, including a red waistcoated white chocolate model for £2.99, and a fructose-sweetened rabbit for diabetics for £1.89. There is even a doggie egg: the Woofit (by Canine Candy) 59p from Asda and other stockists — a percentage of the profits go to Battersea Dogs' Home.

Quote me...

"We must give the people of Ethiopia a spade, but we must also make sure that it is used to dig a well and not more graves for dying children." Audrey Hepburn

Amusing pieces

The Science Museum's user-friendly Launchpad should attract the young this weekend. It offers hands-on familiarization with scientific principles in the guise of games, with hologram hands to shake, kaleidoscopic rooms to enter and gravity-defying bricks to stack. (Closed on Good Friday but open on Easter Sunday, 10.30am-5.30pm. Admission charges are discretionary.)

Tantrums tempered

Hot on the heels of the American Dis-mem-bear — the forgoing Teddy you can tear apart when you are feeling furious — come the British Throw-a-Tantrum dolls. William Johnson, the British inventor, has developed an electronic device, implanted in soft-bodied dolls, which will turn off whoever is on the screen when you hurt it at the television set. It could also be used to turn on the bedroom light by a child scared of the dark. Johnson estimates that a doll should cost under £30, and he is talking to manufacturers about production and marketing.

Victoria McKee

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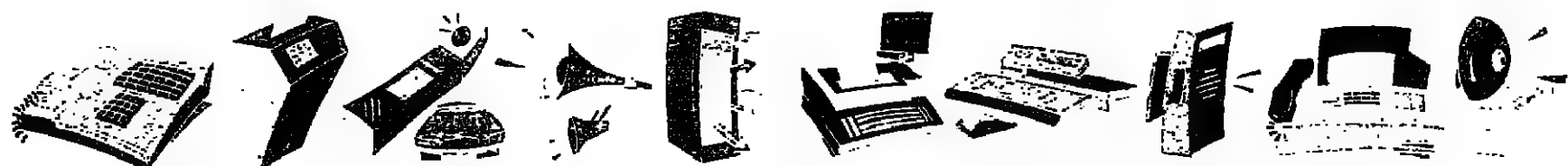
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HENLEY
MANAGEMENT COLLEGE

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT
By Patricia TisdallA teach-in for
the managers

Henley's College of Management celebrates its 40th anniversary this spring with a push in profits

There is a new buzz of interest about management education in top business circles these days. Industry leaders have at last united to support the concept, first, that recognized management qualifications are desirable; secondly that it is up to employers to do something about it rather than leaving it to the state.

A Council for Management Education set up late last year under the chairmanship of Bob Reid, chairman of Shell UK, endorsed by both the

Confederation of British Industry and the British Institute of Management, has already attracted backing from more than 20 major organizations and expects to sign up at least 100 more in the near future.

The growing preoccupation of many business schools is that of meeting the anticipated boom in demand without diluting their standards.

Henley, the management college which celebrates its 40th anniversary this spring and is one of the oldest in Europe, has fewer worries on this score than most.

Since 1973 when he took over as principal, Professor Thomas Kempner has kept up the college's early pioneering tradition with a remarkable series of diversifications.

One of the most courageous for an establishment which

has had to generate its own finances was the substantial investment of more than £1.5 million in high-quality video programmes back in the recession-struck early 1980s as part of a distance learning package.

This has given the college a 50 per cent stake in a separate company, Henley Distance Learning, which now handles the production and marketing of the courses.

The company expects to start making small profits from the present financial year and hopes to go public by around 1990-91, but the main benefit to the college of what Professor Kempner describes as "championing an idea" has been to add flexibility to its traditional teaching methods.

"It is clear from the interest shown in distance learning that much of the momentum is being instigated by individuals," Professor Kempner says. "Rather than waiting for their employers to make the first move, managers themselves are putting pressure on businesses to help them get qualifications. Employers are following in the wake, often reluctantly."

One of a few noteworthy exceptions is Shell, which started a company-based Master of Business Administration programme for 80 of its managers in association with Henley earlier this year.

Another is Computer Integration, a new advanced computer systems company,

which is making registration for an MBA through distance learning a mandatory requirement for all new employees. In return the managing director is offering new recruits a BMW car on successful completion of the programme.

The problem which everyone connected with management education envisages is in a shortage of suitable calibre teachers, but Professor Kempner is more sanguine than most.

At Bradford University where he was the first director

of the management centre, he was successful in transferring academics from other disciplines — economics, statistics and so on, into management education.

"The intellectual content in most management courses is not that difficult," he says. "The problem is in the application of theory to practical real life business problems."

Practicality and realism have been a Henley hallmark from the outset. The object of the college was to be "not

theory but improved practice," stated Sir Hector Hetherington, one of the early sponsors, in an article announcing the plans for the college, published in *The Times* in November 1945.

Today, this realism is most apparent in the programmes which the college tailors to individual organization requirements. Having started in 1976 with a programme for 14 managers employed by the National Freight Corporation, the company programmes division dealt with more than

1,000 managers employed by around 40 different organizations.

The increase has brought big changes in the utilization of the college's accommodation. The graceful building set in an estate of 30 acres bordering the River Thames is itself an important part of the "Henley experience".

But instead of housing a few hundred managers for intensive periods lasting several weeks, the 100 or so study bedrooms are now also accommodating several thousand people who stay only two nights or so at a time but make repeat visits.

Two new buildings have been added since 1986. The first is used exclusively to house Henley Distance Learning Ltd, and the second, the Alex Jarratt Building which was opened in May 1987, is designed principally for the Company Programmes division.

A third new construction which is due to be ready for occupation this autumn will house the college's own Information Systems department of nine people and provide an audio visual control room.

Another growth area of diversification has been achieved in the postgraduate sector through a link with Brunel, the University of West London.

Diversification has brought increased revenue to the college. During the last six years income has risen from £2.2 million in 1982 to a projected £6 to £6.5 million for 1988. If revenue from other activities like distance learning are added, Professor Kempner believes Henley to be the biggest of its type in Europe.

As for the future, in the short term Professor Kempner is casting a predatory eye towards Continental Europe for new customers.

Until recently, Continentals were a little apprehensive about their high-flying managers rubbing shoulders with counterparts in the UK in case the so-called "British disease" rubbed off.

However, the recent economic improvement has transformed overseas attitudes to British business and its managers. Henley hopes to capitalize on a leading position for longer residential courses for experienced managers in a world market in future decades.

"Comparatively long residential courses was the first thing we did and we do it well," Professor Kempner comments.

His message that British managers are poorly educated in comparison with their counterparts in other countries is one which he has been preaching for many years. He takes no satisfaction that it has been endorsed by two major reports published last year.

Among other questions is why does Britain graduate only 1,200 British MBAs a year while the US produces 70,000? "UK business schools are too small. Economies of scale do matter," says Professor Kempner.

These economies will matter even more if the technological innovation in teaching methods which he and his colleagues envisage for the long term future reach maturity.

These include interactive computer conferencing and video conferencing tutorials via satellite and cable involving clusters of managers working within their own work location.

A possible role for Henley in such an environment could become one of teaching teachers — but long-term planning is not a luxury it or any other business school has yet been able to afford.

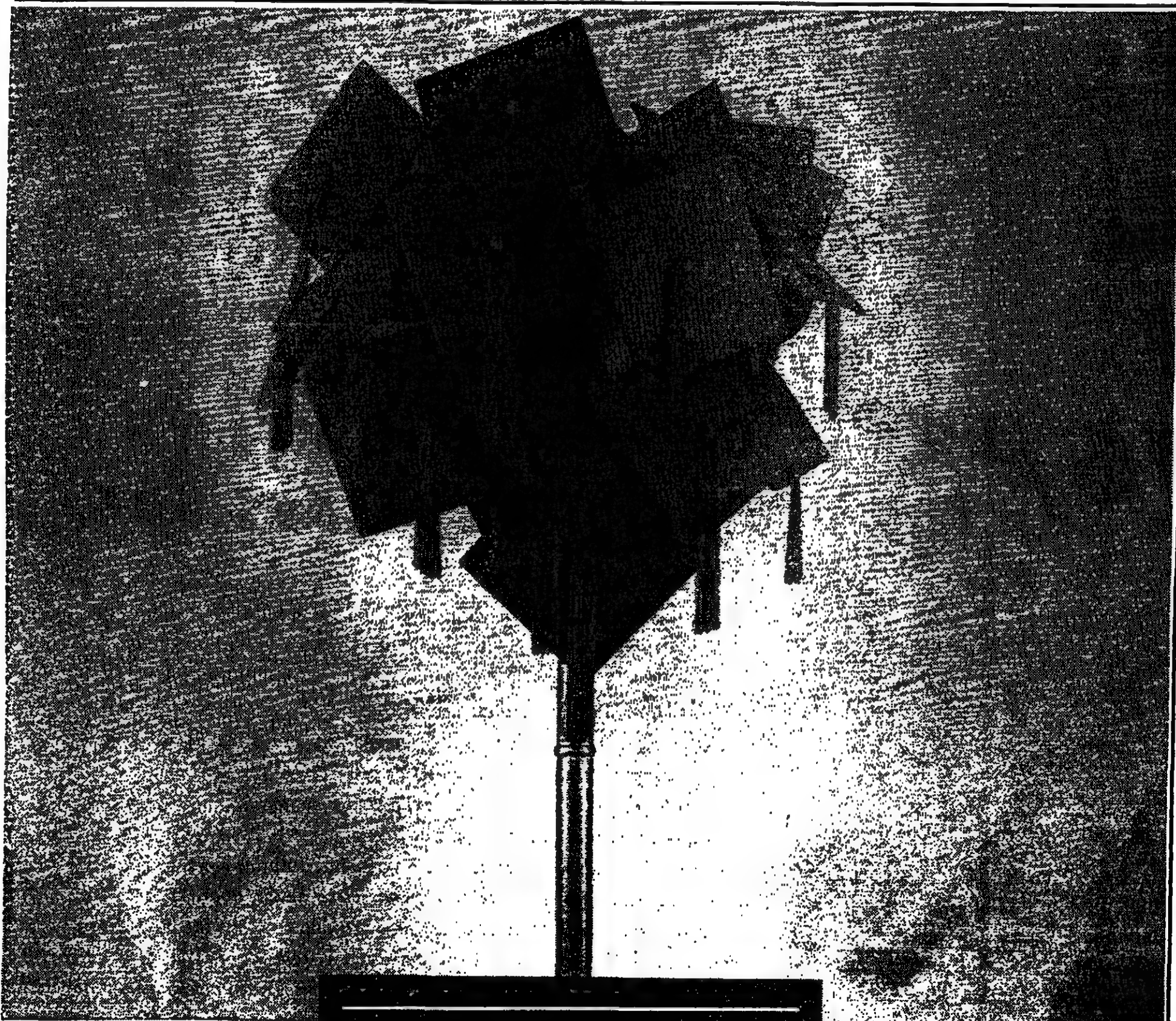


Professor Thomas Kempner outside the graceful Henley College building: a pioneering tradition

CHANGE IN PATTERNS OF ACTIVITY 1981-88

Gross Income (percentage)	1981	1988*
Long open executive courses	56	21
New Henley management course	0	5
Open short courses	17	5
Graduate studies programmes	18	42
Tailored company programmes	5	24
Other income	4	3
Total (%)	100	100

* Projection



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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

BBC1

- 6.00** *Crest* AM.
6.35 *Edgar Kennedy in False Rooms* (b/w). 6.55 *Weather*.
7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Jeremy Paxman and John Sopleton. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25. 8.55 *Regional news and weather*.
9.00 *News and weather* followed by *The Little Hobbs*. Adventures of a German shepherd dog (b/w). 9.30 *Why Don't You?* The first of a new series of entertaining ideas for youngsters at a house and.
10.00 *News and weather* followed by *The Little Hobbs*. Adventures of a German shepherd dog (b/w). 10.30 *Why Don't You?* The first of a new series of entertaining ideas for youngsters at a house and.
10.50 *The Gospel According to St Mark*. Roger Rees with the third of seven films made on location in the Holy Land. This morning, Jesus's triumphant arrival in Jerusalem. 11.00 *News and weather* followed by *Open Air* presented by Bob Welings and Paddy Colquhoun.
12.00 *News and weather* followed by *Daytime Live*. Magazine series introduced by Pamela Armstrong. Alan Titchmarsh and Julie Sanders. Today's edition includes cookery advice from Glyn Christian. 12.55 *Regional news and weather*.
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Barker. 1.30 *Neighbours*. Clive's uncle arrives in Ramsay Street and announces that he plans to stay. 1.50 *Going for Gold*.
2.15 *Fiddlers' Drums*. A made-for-television comedy about a family who decide to leave the smog and start a new life in the country. Directed by Jud Taylor. 12.10 *News and weather*.

BBC2

- 6.55** *Open University: North Uist - Where Sunday Survives*. Ends at 7.20. 9.00 *Crest*.
11.00 *Film: Treasure Island* (1934, b/w). Robert Louis Stevenson's classic adventure story starring Wallace Beery as Long John Silver and Jackie Cooper as Jim Hawkins. Directed by Victor Fleming.
12.40 *Pet's Adventure* (b/w). A case of mistaken identity leads to young Tommy being accused of stealing a radio.
1.00 *Rudolf in the City*. Three cartoons from the American animator. 1.20 *Little Misses and the Mister Man* (b/w).
1.35 *King of the Rocket Men* (b/w). Episode three of the 12-part cliffhanger.
1.45 *Popeye Classics* (b/w). *Popeye the Sailor* and *The Man on the Flying Trapeze*.
2.00 *News and weather* followed by *The Englishman and the Horse: A Kind of Love Story*. In praise of all types of equestrian (r).
3.00 *News and weather* followed by *The Making of the BBC*. A documentary about a day in the life of the BBC News team in London and all round the world culminating in Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell's live transmission.
3.40 *Children Talking* (b/w). Harold Williamson talks in 1957 to girls and boys from Blackburn on the subject of weddings (r).
4.00 *Rock Against the Clock*. A night in the life of a band's heavy duty team (r).
4.30 *Life File*. Kay Alexander reports on a hearing which three out of four children will at some time experience (r).
5.00 *My Music* (r). 5.25 *Give Me Some Action*. An animated film by Gill Bradley. 5.30 *Film 88*.
6.00 *Film: The Diamond Queen* (1953) starring Fernando Lamas, Ariane Dahi and Gilbert Roland. An adventure yarn, set in 17th-century India, about a French soldier-of-fortune's search for a prize gem for the French crown. Directed by John Brahm. 7.30 *Cartoon Two* (r).

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00** *TV-5* includes reports and interviews from Florida; and news, business news and sport at 6.30 and 8.00. At 8.15 *Rowanne* Pasco reports from the Holy Land and on the trial of Jesus.
9.00 *Wacadey* with Timmy Mallett in *Disneyworld*.
9.25 *Thames news*.
9.30 *Lucky Ladders*. Game show presented by Lennie Bennett. 10.00 *Santa Barbara*.
10.30 *The Sun*. Tony Wilson explores and explains what happens at school when pupils have to choose their fourth year options. Further advice at 2.30. 11.10 *Allsorts*. For the young. 11.25 *Thames news*.
11.30 *Getting On*. Tony Van den Bergh examines the effect the proposed closure of a number of libraries will have on older people; and there is a collection of recorded Easter eggs.
12.00 *The Sun*. Quiz game presented by Matthew Kelly. The guest is Barbara Windsor.
1.00 *News at One* with Julia Somerville. 1.30 *Thames news* followed by *Crimetoppers*.
2.30 *Which Way?* Continuing from 10.30. Tony Wilson's advice for pupils facing fourth year options. 3.00 *News*. Rag trade serial. 3.25 *Thames news*.
4.00 *News*. 4.15 *Friday* with the musical story *The Funny Shape*. 4.40 *The Moonlight*. Episode 22 (r). 4.50 *1-2-3 Strikes Again*.
4.45 *News*. Episode one of a new children's drama serial set in Australia. 5.15 *Connections*.
5.45 *News* with Peter Armstrong. 6.00 *Thames news*.
6.25 *Help* examines the importance of support groups for carers.

CHANNEL 4

- 7.00** *Channel 4 News* with Peter Sissons and Sue Carpentier.
7.50 *Party Politics*. Comment from Mrs Margaret Beckett, Labour MP for Derby South. Followed by *Derby*.
8.00 *A Love Affair With Nature*. The first of six programmes in which Edwin Mullins examines the surmise that a great deal of what we have created in, subconsciously or otherwise, a product of the British race's love affair with nature (r).
8.30 *The Orchestra*. Prima Donna Julian Jagger mimes his way through another musical masterpiece, gently ribbing the world of classical music (r).
9.00 *Girls on Top*. The last programme of the comedy series and Amanda builds a bunker, Shelley signs autographs, Jennifer is terrified of visions in the night and Lady Carlton has some man in (r).
9.30 *The Black Dog*. A new animated film, made by Alison de Vries, about a sleeping woman who is taken on a dream journey through a strange landscape by a black dog.
9.50 *Girls' Night Out*. Tonight's first animated film is made by Joanna Quinn and concerns a married woman who leaves her husband sleeping in front of the television to join her friends in the pub for a birthday celebration complete with male stripper.
10.00 *Chimeford 123*. Comedy series set in the year 123 when the Roman Empire included south-east England.
10.30 *Franz Schubert*. The second of the three-part dramatization of the life of Franz Schubert. English subtitles.
12.15 *Sam*. The Late Shift beginning with Johnny Scattato (b/w). The jazz playing New York private detective investigates a suspicious killing after one of his fellow musicians is assaulted.
12.50 *Hank Williams - The Show He Never Gave*. A fictitious re-enactment of the last night of country singer Hank Williams' life, based on the stage show by Maynard Collins. Starring Sneezy Waters as Hank Williams (r). Ends at 2.15.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1** *Wales* 8.30-9.00 *News* followed by *Neighbours* 9.30-10.00. 10.00 *News* and weather. 10.30 *Why Don't You?* 11.00 *Regional news and weather*. 11.30 *News* and weather. 12.00 *News* and weather. 12.30 *Regional news and weather*. 1.00 *News* and weather. 1.30 *Neighbours*. 1.50 *Going for Gold*. 2.15 *Fiddlers' Drums*. 2.40 *Children Talking*. 3.00 *News* and weather. 3.30 *The Making of the BBC*. 4.00 *Rock Against the Clock*. 4.30 *Life File*. 5.00 *My Music*. 5.25 *Give Me Some Action*. 5.30 *Film 88*. 6.00 *Film: The Diamond Queen*. 7.30 *Cartoon Two*.
BBC2 *Wales* 8.30-9.00 *News* followed by *Neighbours* 9.30-10.00. 10.00 *News* and weather. 10.30 *Why Don't You?* 11.00 *Regional news and weather*. 11.30 *News* and weather. 12.00 *News* and weather. 12.30 *Regional news and weather*. 1.00 *News* and weather. 1.30 *Neighbours*. 1.50 *Going for Gold*. 2.15 *Fiddlers' Drums*. 2.40 *Children Talking*. 3.00 *News* and weather. 3.30 *The Making of the BBC*. 4.00 *Rock Against the Clock*. 4.30 *Life File*. 5.00 *My Music*. 5.25 *Give Me Some Action*. 5.30 *Film 88*. 6.00 *Film: The Diamond Queen*. 7.30 *Cartoon Two*.
ANGLIA *As London* 8.30-9.00 *News* followed by *Neighbours* 9.30-10.00. 10.00 *News* and weather. 10.30 *Why Don't You?* 11.00 *Regional news and weather*. 11.30 *News* and weather. 12.00 *News* and weather. 12.30 *Regional news and weather*. 1.00 *News* and weather. 1.30 *Neighbours*. 1.50 *Going for Gold*. 2.15 *Fiddlers' Drums*. 2.40 *Children Talking*. 3.00 *News* and weather. 3.30 *The Making of the BBC*. 4.00 *Rock Against the Clock*. 4.30 *Life File*. 5.00 *My Music*. 5.25 *Give Me Some Action*. 5.30 *Film 88*. 6.00 *Film: The Diamond Queen*. 7.30 *Cartoon Two*.
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John Syer (left) advises Martin Allen and Dean Coney how they can improve their performance (QED: BBC1, 9.30pm)

Psychology versus plastic pitches

● The other day I heard a soccer pundit attribute the surprisingly high position of Queen's Park Rangers in the first division to the built-in advantage of the controversial plastic pitch. Another explanation could be offered by tonight's edition of Q.E.D. (BBC2, 9.30pm), which examines the proposition that footballers' performances can be improved by psychology. Last autumn a sports psychologist, John Syer, spent six weeks with Rangers and the cameras were there to watch him. Eyes closed and taking deep breaths, the players meditated on their strengths and weaknesses. Striker Dean Coney reckons he always dodges to the left when trying to beat a defender, never to the right. Midfielder Martin Allen admits to a lack of speed. Syer puts the team into mental training. The initial results are unpromising. Two weeks into the experiment QPR are crushed 4-0 by Liverpool and Coney hardly gets near the ball. Worse is to come as QPR are knocked out of the Littlewood's Cup by Third Division Bury. Syer hosts a session on how to hit back after going a goal down. Coney decides to become more aggressive and improve his heading. Martin Allen rationalizes his lack of pace and now calls it "composure on the ball". He is composed enough to score at Norwich, but the team's results are still poor. In Syer's final week comes what Ron Pickering would call the Big One, QPR against Spurs. QPR scores a fine goal - with his head - and QPR hang on for a draw with 10 men, though what happened to the eleventh is not explained. A victim of too much psychology? As with so many programmes in this series, the verdict must be not proven. Perhaps it is the plastic pitch, after all.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

Not so foggy now

● If you are familiar with the befogged opening chapter of Dickens's *Bleak House*, you can accurately pinpoint the starting point of Hugo Young's interview with Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, head of the Chancery Division of the High Court, in *The Judges* (Radio 4, 8.45pm). Dickens painted a picture of a Chancery that made a pretence of equity and as Sir Nicholas says tonight, he and the long line of Chancery judges since *Bleak House* was penned have had cause to feel bitterness towards Dickens and the fictional case of Jarndyce and Jarndyce, with its interminable delays. Sir Nicholas proclaims himself to be an interventionist judge with an eye on time saving. Lay clients who appear before him need have no fears about what the other eye is doing. The whole operation of judging, he affirms, must be directed to the client's having a fair trial. Hugo Young, clearly under the influence of Dickensian metaphor, sums it up by characterizing the role of Sir Nicholas as that of the driver of a Rolls-Royce having to move at the pace of a penny-farthing.

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

- Radio 1**
6.55 *Open University: Open Forum* 6.55 *News*, weather, 7.00 *Morning Concert*.
7.00 *Morning Concert*.
7.30 *Open University: Open Forum* 7.30 *News*, weather, 7.45 *Open University: Open Forum*.
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10.30 *Open University: Open Forum*

D-Day for artists at Royal Academy

He said the Government was attracted by subscription because: it enabled the viewer to express his preferences between different programmes.



**Words: Andrew Billen
Photographs: John Rogers**

Whooping cough test case rejected

Richard Owen in Brussels writes: As Lord Young announced the terms of the deal, the European Commission criticised the British Government for providing inadequate information on the

Lord Young had talks with Mr Sutherland in Brussels last week in an attempt to provide enough information to satisfy the commission that the deal was not in contravention of EEC competition rules.

The judge also said Mr Brodie's claim was not supported by the bulk of evidence in the case. All the witnesses who had dealt with the issue accepted that the cases did not

and others cannot now get the £10,000 compensation that she had already been awarded after legal proceedings under the Vaccine Damages Payments Act. Final payment has been held up pending the hearing of evidence

The News Corporation, from continuing to own both newspaper and television stations in Boston and New York

inquire into the motives of Congress in passing the provision, but noted that it "strikes at Murdoch with the precision of a laser beam" and therefore violates the equal protection clause of the Constitution.

Up popped Mr Julian Brazier, a new young Tory MP

Many passengers booked on the airline this weekend are Scandinavian and only about six flights were scheduled.

Information supplied by London Weather Centre

	Price
Money Market	30
Foreign Exchange	29
Commodities	31
USM Prices	30
Trade	29

WEATHER All districts will have



K R A R E F T
S T A N D F L E S H P O T S

Portsmouth	5.58	1.7	8.87	1.7
Potomac	10.39	4.0	11.23	4.2
Shoreham	10.47	3.52	11.08	3.7
Southampton	10.30	3.8	10.58	4.1
Swansea	5.44	6.0	6.03	6.2
Torquay	11.2	4.5	9.19	4.8
Wilton-on-Avon	3.12	3.7	11.28	3.7

Time measured in minutes: 1m-3.280001.
Times are BST.

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC.
Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 103.7 (February).

LONDON: The FT index closed up 11.2 at 1405.6.

Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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SEA OIL	
per 315.60	per 315.60
trading price	
26	Money
26	Money
26	Money

Foreign Exchange	30
Unit Traders	35
Commodities	35
USM Prices	30
Traded Options	30
Alpha Stocks	31

WEDNESDAY MARCH 30 1988

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1405.6 (+11.2)

FT-SE 100
1765.1 (+18.6)

Bargains
34693 (34585)

USM (Datastream)
145.75 (+0.55)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8690 (+0.0115)

W German mark
3.1063 (+0.0238)

Trade-weighted
77.7 (+0.6)

Emess up
by 79%
to record

Pretax profits at Emess, the lighting and electrical accessories group, reached a record £7.7 million last year — 79 per cent ahead of the previous year. Earnings per share rose by 45 per cent to 27p and the directors have proposed a 27 per cent increase in the dividend to 8p for the year.

Sales of decorative lighting increased by 18 per cent, despite the weak pre-Christmas retail demand, the company said. Commercial lighting also made considerable progress, while Tenby Electrical, acquired in early 1987, increased its sales by 12 per cent in a static British market.

Mr Michael Meyer, the chairman, said that the current year had started well.

Profits drop

Pretax profits at Willis Faber, the Lloyd's insurance broker, fell 18.6 per cent to £60.9 million, despite a four-month contribution of £4.6 million from the merged Stewart Wrightson. The total dividend was raised by 6.6 per cent to 11.46p.

Tempos, page 26

Payout lifted

Belhaven, the brewery and restaurant group, shows a £6.86 million pretax profit for the nine months ended December compared with £5.95 million for the 12 months ended March, 1987. A final dividend of 0.3p makes 0.75p for the nine months compared with 0.45p.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1997.35 (+17.58)
Dow Jones	2969.09 (+30.38)
Nikkei Average	2521.81 (+54.88)
Hang Seng	240.3 (+3.9)
Amsterdam	1986.1 (+15.8)
Frankfurt	455.0 (+2.2)
Commerzbank	157.40 (+32.2)
Brussels	488.18 (+35.1)
Paris CAC	285.3 (+12.2)
Zurich S&K Gen	457.6 (+12.5)
London	
FT-A All-Share	907.08 (+8.47)
FT-3000	925.84 (+8.78)
FT-Gold Mines	238.2 (+2.4)
FT-Fixed Interest	97.67 (+0.01)
FT-Govt Secs	90.39 (+0.21)
Closing prices	Page 28
Recent issues	Page 31

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Allied Lyons	388½p (+14p)
Standard Chart	442½p (+18p)
William Baird	457½p (+12p)
Laird	235½p (+15p)
Audio Fidelity	128½p (+13p)
Body Shop	495p (+20p)
Reliance	455p (+20p)
British Aerospace	411p (+58p)
Willis Faber	217½p (+15p)
Jaguar	282½p (+12p)
General Accident	285½p (+15p)
Barrat Bank	483½p (+11p)
Bridon	183p (+11p)
J Smurfit	385p (+10p)
Stockley	355p (+10p)
Candover	320p (+10p)

FALLS:	
Handerson Admin	645p (-10p)
Mitel	130½p (-11p)
Graham House	425p (-25p)
Ward	64½p (-10p)
Closing prices	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base:	8½%
3-month interbank:	8½-9½%
3-month eligible bills:	8½-9½%
buying rate:	
US Prime Rate:	8½%
Federal Funds:	6½-7½%
3-month Treasury bills:	5.73-5.71%
30-year bonds:	100½-101½

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£1.8690	\$1.8675
DM3.1063	DM1.5635
SwF12.5680	SwF11.3750
FF16.6500	FF16.6500
Yen233.05	Yen242.68
Index:77.7	Index:92.5
ECU 20.867701	SDR 20.748645

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$454.70 pm \$454.50	
3-month gold lease:	£243.50-244.00
New York:	
Comex \$456.30-456.80	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (May) pm \$15.60bbl (\$15.77)	
Denotes latest trading price	
Oil Markets 30	Foreign Exch 30
Stock Market 26	Unit Tracts 30
Commodities 27	Commodities 30
City Diary 27	USM Prices 30
Wanted Ope 31	Wanted Ope 31
Share Prices 29	Alpha Stocks 31

Guinness loses court battle

Panel ruling on fight for Distillers upheld

By Joe Joseph

Guinness has failed in its High Court attempt to overturn the City Takeover Panel's ruling that it violated the City Code during its controversial £2.7 billion takeover of Distillers, the Scotch whisky maker.

Three judges rejected the brewer's claim that the Panel's decision was "unfair and unlawful", could have disastrous consequences for its future and should be set aside.

The decision means that Guinness could now face claims of up to £100 million from former Distillers shareholders who might feel they were short-changed.

It would also appear to buttress the standing of Argyll, Guinness's rival in the tussle for Distillers two years ago, in any legal action it might take against Guinness on grounds that Distillers was won unfairly.

Mr Alistair Grant, Argyll's chairman, said: "This is obviously a milestone. It's the first formal indication from the authorities that improprieties took place. But of course there is a difference between improprieties against the City Code and illegality."

"Argyll's position remains that we are contemplating legal action against Guinness since there is no doubt that Argyll suffered considerably from its failure to acquire Distillers and there are growing indications that Argyll failed to acquire Distillers because of apparent illegal action by Guinness and its advisers."

It is believed that the super-markets group is unlikely to begin legal proceedings against Guinness unless and until the case against Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chairman, and against the several other businessmen facing criminal charges in the Guinness affair has been securely established by the prosecution in forthcoming trials.

Yesterday's court ruling also provides a fillip for the Takeover Panel, whose credibility would have been jeopardised had it appeared to lack the power to sweep its own backyard.

The Panel, which felt that Guinness had obtained Distillers on the cheap, will now turn its attention to redressing any grievances of former Distillers shareholders who might have been disadvantaged by evidence that Guinness took part in a concerted party purchase of 10.6 million Distillers shares.

Mr Antony Beevor, the Panel's director-general, said: "With Distillers shareholders' interests in mind, our next step is resuming our discussion with Guinness's advisers with a view to arranging that ex-Distillers shareholders get what they are entitled to under the Code."

Guinness has not yet decided whether to appeal. Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Lord Justice Russell and Mr Justice Tudor Evans, said the Takeover Panel had stepped into "a minefield of explosive situations."

But, reading from a detailed 48-page ruling, the judge added: "There was in my judgment no procedural impropriety. There was sufficient evidence to allow the Panel to decide as it did, having drawn a number of necessary inferences to that end."

There was nothing irrational or unreasonable in the Panel's decision not to adjourn its inquiry until after an investigation by the Department of Trade and Industry into the Guinness affair had taken place or at least until DTI inspectors had shown the Panel statements from witnesses in the investigation.

The Panel ruled there was no doubt on the evidence that, at a critical stage of the takeover battle a Lucerne-based company, Pipelec, bought 10.6 million Distillers shares for nearly £76 million while acting "in concert" with Guinness in breach of the City Code.

At the heart of the Panel's case was alleged evidence that Mr Thomas Ward — an American lawyer and former Guinness director, for whom an arrest warrant has just been issued — had entered into a secret deal with Pipelec.

Lord Justice Watkins read a letter from Pipelec, a subsidiary of the Swiss Bank Leu, addressed to Mr Ward setting out the terms of an alleged agreement under which the Swiss company would buy the Distillers shares — a vital 3 per cent block.

The judge said the new board was unconvinced of the authenticity of the letter.

Next receives profit boost from catalogue of success

By Carol Ferguson

Next, the fashion retailer and mail order group, reported a bumper £122.5 million pretax profit for a 17 month period which began with the acquisition of Grattan and ended with the launch in January of the Next Directory, its new mail order catalogue.

Comparing the latest 12 months to January 31 with the previous year, pretax profits rose 118 per cent to £92.4 million on turnover of £862 million. Earnings per share rose 39 per cent to 19.52p and the dividend was increased by 38 per cent for the year to 7.2p net.

Mr George Davies, Next's chairman, said that the group had not felt the pinch like some retailers, and that there had been strong growth in womenswear, menswear and accessories.

Through the acquisition of Combined English Stores last May, Next acquired strong retail businesses in the shape



Mail order: George Davies of Salisburys, Zales and Biba, and 590,000 sq ft of underperforming sites trading under Paige and Collingwood/Weir. Next's total retail space now amounts to just under 2 million square feet.

The Next Directory, a home shopping catalogue targeted at the ABC1 customer, has exceeded all the company's expectations in the first 10

weeks since its launch. Mr Davies said, "The effort we put into the quality of the merchandise, service and presentation has paid off to the extent that our return rates are substantially lower, while our average order per customer is higher than expected." He said that more than 20 per cent of the customers are men, as against the more usual 5 per cent in traditional mail order.

A survey of customers revealed that 93.3 per cent of all orders were delivered within two days of ordering. Of those that were delivered later, in many instances the customer had requested later delivery, or not been at home, Mr Davies said.

The new jewellery concept is to be launched in May with an initial 30 shops selling costume jewellery retailing at an average ticket price of about £12 an item, and precious jewellery at various prices ranging up to £5,000.

Tempos, page 26

Wimpey's £95.8m Bank denies 'sale'

By Alexandra Jackson

George Wimpey, the construction group, reported improved profits during 1987 up from £66.5 million to £95.8 million.

The results reflect tighter management of the group under the chairmanship of Sir Clifford Chetwood. But City analysts remained concerned about the group's future potential, so the shares gained only 2p to 257p, despite the 44 per cent profits increase.

A final dividend of 4.75p was declared, making a total of 6.75p for the year. Sir Clifford scotched rumours that a rights issue would be necessary to fund Wimpey's expansion plans.

Housebuilding was the main contributor to the 24 per cent growth in construction-related profits which grew to £89.6 million.

Tempos, page 26

Standard Chartered, the international banking group which announces its results today, has strongly denied reports that it was putting on sale its consumer finance subsidiary, Chartered Trust.

Although the Trustee Savings Bank has approached Standard about the possibility of buying Chartered Trust, there are no serious negotiations in progress. A Standard

spokesman said yesterday: "Chartered Trust is definitely not on the table."

Chartered Trust has been tipped as a possible candidate for sale ever since Standard ran into difficulties over its capital ratios last year. Some analysts expect it to announce pretax losses of up to £400 million for 1987. It made profits of £12.5 million in 1986.

Mr Rod Thomas, the CBI's director of employment affairs, said: "The survey reveals a side to companies which is often ignored: public-spirited, flexible in responding to employees' particular needs, keen to recognize loyalty to the company and anxious to reduce divisions between manual and white-collar staff."

He added: "It also shows that holiday entitlement varies between companies. There is no such thing as a standard holiday entitlement."

Group pays £22.4 million for CPIO



John Gardiner, chairman of Laird, which has bought CPIO, the French components group. (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Laird profits soar to £32.59m

By Michael Tate

Laird Group, the engineering combine, yesterday unveiled its latest acquisition, the French rubber and plastic car components group, CPIO, on the back of a 1987 pretax profit increase from £28.19 million to £32.59 million.

CPIO, currently owned by Renault, the French car manufacturer, is costing Laird, which is headed by Mr John Gardiner, £22.4 million in cash. It has between 20 and 25 per cent of the French market, and sells over 75 per cent of its production to Renault, which has committed itself to CPIO for the next three years. By then, says Mr Erik Porter, Laird managing director, CPIO expects to have built up its business with Peugeot and others.

CPIO made profits of £9.6 million in 1987, compared with £4.9 million in 1986 and losses before that.

The acquisition, which will be financed from borrowings and cash flow, will further strengthen Laird's sealing systems division, which has now become the group's biggest profit-earner.

Pre-interest profits from this division alone, which includes Europe's leading car body seal business, Draflex KG, climbed from £21.4 million to £26.1 million. About £1 million came from acquisitions.

The service industries division earned a record £7.6 million against £4.2 million. Earnings per share are 25.1p against 23.0p. A 4.6p final dividend makes 7.7p for the year against 7.0p.

Sterling index surges to its highest level in two years

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The pound rose strongly again yesterday, helped initially by market speculation that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had resigned.

It closed comfortably above the DM3.10 level, with its average value against all currencies at its highest for over two years.

Dealers said that the speculation, quickly denied by the Treasury, had pushed sterling higher because of the belief that, under a new Chancellor, the pound would be allowed to find its own level.

In the House of Commons,

the Prime Minister again played down the sterling rift with Mr Nigel Lawson.

Mrs Thatcher said: "Both the Chancellor and I put downward pressure on inflation."

Comment: 27

tion as the top-most priority. Both the Chancellor and I think that exchange rate stability can be very useful for industry."

In evidence to the Treasury and Civil Service Committee this afternoon, the Chancellor is expected to pursue the line

agreed at a meeting at 10 Downing Street last Friday.

This is that inflation is the main aim of policy but, subject to that aim, exchange rate stability is desirable.

The pound closed 2.5 pence higher at DM3.1074.

But money market traders said that a further strong rise would be needed before interest rates were again reduced.

The pound gained 1.15 cents to \$1.8690, and the sterling index rose by 0.6 points to 77.7, its highest since January 1986.

Beazer homes in after pact

From Lawrence Lever, Los Angeles

Beazer, the British housebuilder, has increased its chances of succeeding in its tender offer for Koppers Co, the US group, through an agreement which it has reached with the anti-trust division of the US Department of Justice.

The two sides have agreed that if Beazer acquires Koppers and sells the Blue Diamond aggregates business located in Irwindale, California, all anti-trust considerations of the tender offer will be satisfied. Blue Diamond is a Koppers subsidiary.

However, Koppers has challenged the Beazer agreement with the anti-trust authorities and succeeded in preventing Beazer from taking any steps in its tender offer until a court hearing on April 4.

Under US laws the final decision on anti-trust issues always rests with a federal court. The court must approve any agreement made by the anti-trust authorities.

At the April 4 court hearing, Koppers will argue that Beazer's offer should be kept on hold until the court has made its decision.

Koppers claims that the agreement with the anti-trust authorities is inadequate. It argues that selling Blue Diamond alone will not satisfy all the anti-trust considerations. For instance, it claims, considerations in the cement and ready-mixed concrete areas have not been addressed.

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Survey shows most people have 28 to 33 days a year CBI snapshot ends holiday myth

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

An in-depth survey of holiday entitlements in industry and commerce shows most employees receive between 28 and 33 days a year, including eight public holidays. Special leave includes not only paternity breaks but also time off during bereavement, military training and civic commitments from charity work to community help.

The snapshot of British holiday patterns was taken at the end of last year when the Confederation of British Industry surveyed nearly 500 companies. It demolished some myths because little difference was found between holiday entitlements for clerical and manual employees.

But holiday entitlement in the service sector was lower than in manufacturing although more companies in service industries gave extra time off related to length of service.

Six out of 10 people employed by manufacturers have 33 days a year, including 25 days' basic leave. Most

of the rest in manufacturing have between 30 and 32 days of leave but one company in eight gives workers fewer than 30 days.

In the service sector, holiday entitlement is largely concentrated at the lower end of a 28 to 31 days range. But two-thirds of the service companies gave service-related additions to the basic entitlement, compared with 44 per cent in manufacturing.

Service companies also take a more benign view on special forms of leave. About 40 per cent of them allowed paid paternity leave against 26 per cent of manufacturers doing so. In both cases it was on a discretionary basis; only 6 per cent of all the companies allowed paternity leave contractually.

Where companies indicated length of paternity leave, it was usually of one to three days' duration.

The most common method of calculating holiday pay is on average earnings or basic pay although practices vary widely.

Most companies allow paid leave for military training, usually with the Territorial Army. This applied to 72 per cent of service-sector companies and 64 per cent of manufacturers. It means in most cases five to 10 days of paid leave.

One in 10 companies reported allowing special leave for a wide range of community duties but the CBI thought this an underestimate because other companies indicated they treated special requests on a discretionary basis.

Mr Rod Thomas, the CBI's director of employment affairs, said: "The survey reveals a side to companies which is often ignored: public-spirited, flexible in responding to employees' particular needs, keen to recognize loyalty to the company and anxious to reduce divisions between manual and white-collar staff."

He added: "It also shows that holiday entitlement varies between companies. There is no such thing as a standard holiday entitlement."

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Nestor BNA beats its forecast with £2.8m

Nestor BNA, the nursing agency which obtained a full listing last November, beat its profits forecast by £308,800 with pretax profits in the year to December 31 of £2.8 million, a rise of 30 per cent. Turnover rose 24 per cent to £14.5 million.

BNA, the nursing subsidiary, produced 75 per cent of profits, with the two other divisions, doctors' deputising service and nursing homes and hospitals, providing the balance in roughly equal proportions. This year has started well, the company said, with BNA's 100th branch due to open next month. BNA nurses are providing about 150,000 hours of care to patients each week. Nestor Medical Services, the nursing homes division, is on target and the Nestor Medical Deputising has started the year with a record number of calls.

£1.6m debut for Brooks

Booming hotel bookings and restaurant reservations have boosted profits at Brooks Service Group, hirer and cleaner of bedclothes, tablecloths and workwear. Pretax profits in 1987, the group's first as a public company, were £1.62 million against £1.12 million in 1986. Earnings rose from 9.7p to 11.2p a share, and the board is paying a 2.5p final dividend making 4.2p a share against 2.05p before.

Trading swap lifts Clifford's

Last June's trading swap with Express Dairy, when it gave up its Bristol business in return for the Express trade in Oxfordshire and Hampshire, helped lift milk volumes at Clifford's Dairies in 1987, and group turnover rose from £93.6 million to £108.6 million in 1987. Pretax profits climbed from £4.52 million to £5.03 million. A final dividend of 5.5p, making 8.5p for the year, against 8p, is being paid.

Candover up 45%

Candover Investments, the management buyout specialist, reported a 45 per cent increase in net asset value during 1987. Pretax profits climbed 35 per cent to £1.212 million and shareholders are to receive a final dividend of 6p per share, making a total for the year of 9p. This compares with total dividends of 7p for the previous year.

The board said that although competition in the buyout field had increased, it was optimistic that good opportunities to finance buyouts on acceptable terms would continue and perhaps increase. Carndon, the building products company, had been the most successful of the buyouts sponsored by the company. Four buyout investments had been successfully sold, with Timpona Shoes and Haden group realising amounts substantially in excess of original costs.

Worcester rises 42%

A surge in demand for gas-fired boiler products helped Worcester Group, the central heating specialist, boost pretax profits by 42 per cent from £2.2 million to £3.14 million in 1987. Mr Cecil Duckworth, the chairman and chief executive, said the boiler sales were up by 35 per cent. Earnings are a third higher at 9.1p a share and a final dividend of 1.4p is being paid, making 2.96p for the year, against 1.44p last time.

Amari profits reach £7.3m

Amari, the metals and plastics stockholding group, raised pretax profits from £6.1 million to £7.3 million last year. Sales rose from £178 million to £236 million. A total dividend for the year of 6.5p is being paid against 6.5p. Mr Michael Ward Thomas, the chairman, said: "Results to date show substantial progress in all areas of the group's activities and we confidently expect this to continue."

£3.7m for Sherwood

Sherwood Group, formerly Delfor Holdings, made pretax profits of £3.7 million in the year to end-December, against £2 million the previous year. Turnover rose to £28.6 million from £11 million. The Delfor division, which makes brassieres and co-ordinated lingerie, has a record order book and its capacity has been substantially increased following the acquisition last month of Lovable, the brassiere manufacturer.

Halle Models, the nightwear and children's wear division bought at the end of 1986, made a valuable contribution. Birkin, the lacemaker acquired last summer, is expected to have a record year this year in profit and turnover terms, while Textile Finishing, the lace dyer bought last December, is expected to show a large increase in profit this year. The final dividend was 3p, making 4.5p for the year against 3.3p.

Innovative zeal powers Next forward

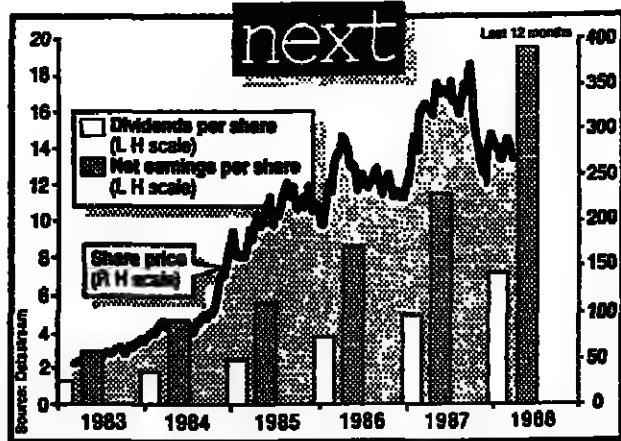
Nothing stands still at Next, not even the year-end. Critics complain that the latest figures are flattered by the five-month move forward to January 31 year-end, allowing the all-important pre-Christmas trading season for the newly acquired Combined English Stores group to be included.

But this is mere carping. Far from reaching market saturation in next to no time, as many have predicted, the group's innovative zeal has carried it ever onwards and upwards.

Not only has Next developed separate design ranges for its women's fashions stores, it has moved successfully into menswear, children's clothes, accessories, mail order through the Granada acquisition, and this year, jewellery through CES.

Apart from the well publicized, and freely acknowledged, clothing problems, the Next Directory looks like being a runaway success. Within four weeks of the launch, it had half a million responses and in the first 10 weeks, it has grossed £20 million. In other words, the directory is taking a staggering £2 million a week, compared with Next retail which is grossing a little less than £6 million a week.

Even the rate of customer returns experienced by the directory, 17.6 per cent in unit terms, 20.9 per cent by value, is well below the industry average, which by some estimates is as high as 50 per cent.



It appears to be on course to do better than break even this year, and be well in profit next year.

Next is now preparing to launch its own jewellery range — both costume and precious jewellery — and be in 100 stores by the end of the year.

So even if the underlying like-for-like rate of retail sales growth of about 8 per cent, excluding inflation, is not terribly exciting, new store openings and new products should enable profits to power ahead. Last year, total retail sales growth was 31 per cent, of which 21 per cent was attributable to new space.

This year, because of the higher number of shares in issue after the CES acquisition, pretax profits will need to grow by 30 per cent to achieve target earnings per share growth of 20 per cent.

Given that pretax profits more than doubled last year, and there will be a full year of CES included this year, the omens are good. If Next does no better than this, the prospective multiple is a rather stingy 11.4, a rating which hardly begins to reflect the growth prospects.

Wimpey

It says something about the slowness within even the best construction company that Sir Clifford Chetwood, the chairman of George Wimpey, a leading British building group, shies away from the challenge of acquiring a company similar to his own. He is, no doubt, haunted by the horrors he had to overcome when taking charge of Wimpey in 1984.

Even now, with profits two-and-a-half times higher than four years ago, the return on capital, admittedly including

the sizeable property portfolio, at 15 per cent, remains short of the 20 per cent target. For new projects Sir Clifford now seeks a 25 per cent return from his minions.

Thus, because there is still scope for enhancing the performance from within, Sir Clifford does not immediately have to face the problem of from where future growth is coming. But he will have to soon.

Attempts are being made to ally the sceptics by pointing to a good relationship with the Grove Charity Trust which holds 35 per cent of the equity and is said to be loyal to its founding charter to protect the group from predators. A rights issue would be ill-received by the charity and shareholders.

So how much scope is there for Wimpey to develop its existing businesses? Housing is moving upmarket in Britain but is still 45 per cent exposed to the first-time buyer. Overseas housing in the US, Canada, France and Hong Kong is now half as big again as Britain. Wimpey has invested more than £30 million in land in North America and is expected to make up for any downturn at home.

But since the US housing business has just had to be reorganized, having made a small loss last year and British housing can reasonably be estimated to have made approaching £50 million, there will be quite a lot of ground to be made up.

Contracting at home is competitive, while although overseas orders have not disappeared, they are scarcer than in the past.

The group should make £115 million this year, putting the shares on nine times earnings. Bid speculation, although mostly unfounded, will recur and this remains the most likely way of trading the shares. Otherwise, there are other more exciting opportunities about.

Willis Faber

An 18.6 per cent profits fall is not usually cause for celebration, but Willis Faber's shares shot up by 14p to 217p.

Many analysts had feared a worse profits downturn and a smaller dividend increase. They were cheered, too, by the upbeat statement about prospects, given the dire state of the insurance market.

Willis has had to counter a great deal of adverse publicity over the exodus of key people after its merger with Stewart Wrightson, so quite understandably it is trumpeting the successes of the merger. And successes there are.

The integration of the two operations has led to a net reduction in headcount of 460, which should rise to 600 by the end of this year. The savings on systems, premises and people and the economies of scale have all been greater than anticipated. Savings of £10 million will have been

achieved by the end of this year and the annualized run will be higher.

Willis would have needed to wick the pruning shears, merger or not, because of the state of the market. The merger has also had the desired effect of increasing the sterling content of brokerage income at a time of dollar weakness. Sterling accounted for 34 per cent of brokerage last year against 28 per cent the year before and should rise closer to 40 per cent this year.

Although some business has walked out of the door with departing staff, Willis has also picked up a decent number of new accounts, purely because of the strengths of the merged group.

The positive news is not enough to counter the adverse dollar effect and the rate-cutting, overcapacity and fierce competition in the insurance market. Willis's profits are expected to decline again, to £55 million this year, according to Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker.

Dollar weakness lopped an estimated £10 million off last year's profits, which would have been £17 million but for hedging. Willis is hedged this year at \$1.60, which should again help to mitigate the worst currency effects.

The dividend cover at 1.7 times is less than usual and a maintained dividend is expected this year. The yield is 7.2 per cent.

STOCK MARKET

Share prices rally as the dollar steadies

A steadier performance by the dollar on the foreign exchange encouraged a few cheap buyers to try their luck yesterday, enabling share prices to enjoy an overdue rally.

The FT-SE 100 index, having fallen by about 100 points in the past few days, closed near its best levels of the day with a rise of 18.6 to 1,765.1. The narrower FT index of 30 shares also turned in a worthy performance, finishing at the top with a rise of 11.2 to 1,405.6. A total of 397 million shares were traded.

Dealers said that investors had been cheered by the strong recovery overnight from an early, 16-point fall on Wall Street and the firm start made in renewed trading.

Mr Bernard Jones, an analyst at Kleinwort Greaveson, the broker, is looking for a recovery and says that the level of bearish sentiment has become extreme as the spectre

of the five-month rally which followed the 1929 crash continues to worry investors. Taking a long-term view, he says that investors should sit tight but gives a warning that short-term traders ought to stay out of the market until the correction is over.

Government securities benefited from a stronger

UTC Group, the financial services specialist, the subject of a merger last year between United Trust & Credit and Sampertex, reported doubled pretax profits of £3.01 million. The group plans to fund the food manufacturing side of Sampertex on the Third Market.

pound, closing with gains of more than 2%.

The main feature of the afternoon was the announcement of the details of the proposed acquisition of Rover

by British Aerospace. BAE greeted the news by soaring 60p to 412p. The group is paying £150 million for debt-ridden Rover which is a lot lower than some estimates. The Government plans to inject a further £800 million and write off £1.1 billion of trading losses.

Rover responded with a fall of 10p to 65p. Blue Arrow, the world's biggest employment agency, is expected to announce details of its proposed listing of shares on the New York Stock Exchange soon. It is thought that the listing will be a marketing agreement and not a placing. The company has said that it does not intend to take advantage of the move by raising extra funds. Dealings will start some time next month.

A source close to the company said that County NatWest, its financial adviser, will not be using the opportunity to dispose of the 9.4 per cent it now owns in the company following last year's record rights issue to help finance the Manpower deal.

There has been speculation during the past few weeks that County was trying to find a buyer for its holding and this has depressed the share price. Blue Arrow firmed by another 2p to 111p yesterday. That compares with the 172p level the shares were trading at



before the October crash. Wellcome, the pharmaceuticals group which is leading the fight against AIDS with its new drug, Retrovir, stood out with a rise of 16p to 460p following

Hillside Holdings, the fast-growing food-to-furniture group, enjoyed an early flurry of activity before closing 1p firmer at 274p. Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, has just published a buy circular. Its views were echoed by rival County NatWest, the broking arm of the NatWest Bank.

the news that the group has arranged an American Depository Receipt for its shares on Wall Street. Mr Jonathan de Pass, a

pharmaceuticals analyst at Robert Fleming, the securities house, says: "The market is hoping for a great surge in buying."

He points out that many US fund managers are only allowed to hold dollar-denominated shares for any length of time. Brokers have been reporting heavy selling of the shares by the Americans before the financial year-end.

Wellcome has certainly been attracting a great deal of interest in America with Retrovir, which is still seen as the most effective weapon the doctors have against AIDS.

The ADR facility will also be good news for Wellcome's workforce, many of whom are based in the US and will now be able to trade in and out of the shares more freely.

Mr Ian Moore, a pharmaceuticals analyst at Morgan Grenfell, the broker, says: "The clinical profile of the two drugs is very similar. TPA does not appear to increase the survival rate of patients. Emsamine is just as good as TPA."

Mr Moore says that US analysts will now be forced to admit to clients that there is another way to play this field of heart treatment. The news should provide a boost for Beecham which hopes to market Emsamine in the US.

Michael Clark

Profits up to £17m at Higgs and Hill

By Alexandra Jackson

A strong performance from house building and property activities underpinned 1987's results from Higgs and Hill, the construction group, where pretax profits climbed from £12.2 million to £17.3 million.

Sales advanced by 12 per cent to £267.1 million while earnings per share soared by 35 per cent to 31.95p. A final dividend of 6p was declared, making a total for the year of 9p (7.5p).

Extraordinary profits of £3.3 million were realized as part of a rationalization of the investment property portfolio.

Mr Brian Hill, the chairman, reported that all divisions, with the exception of overseas construction, contributed to the advance. Housing and commercial property accounted for two-thirds of group operating profits.

Mr Hill said that the group had experienced no softening of demand for housing, particularly in the middle price bracket, although buying land at suitable prices remained a problem.

The property division in Britain and France did especially well.

Power Corporation in £16.2m cash call

By Our City Staff

Power Corporation, the Irish-based property developer, whose debut on the market coincided with the October crash, is to raise £19 million (£16.2 million), net of expenses, in a one-for-two rights issue at 110.5p.

The group specializes in retail developments and is involved in Trocadero Centre in London's Piccadilly in a joint venture with Brent Walker. Power made pretax profits of £12.93 million in 1987, up from £1782,000 in 1986. A dividend of 10p was declared.

Power is to spend £3.5 million on increasing its shareholding in Walker Power, the joint-venture company with Brent Walker, from 25 per cent to 50 per cent by buying a holding owned by AMEC, the construction group, itself a sizeable shareholder in Power Corporation. The proceeds of the rights issue will be used to eliminate borrowings.

Power's earnings last year were £18.48p against £12.59p in 1986. A dividend of 10p was declared.

STEELEY

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EARNINGS PER SHARE UP 37%

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Profit before tax	£60.3M	£44.3M
Net earnings per share	30.86p	22.57p
Dividend	9.25p	7.75p

The year 1987 has been a period of significant progress both in terms of increased profits and the focusing of the group on the business of construction materials. The current year has started well, we have a well-founded confidence, and expect to have another successful year.

David L. Donne, Chairman.

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LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL

Hambro as home

Pretax profits of the Hambro banking group rose 24 per cent to £14.5 million in 1987. The group's first as a public company, produced 75 per cent of profits, with the two other divisions, doctors' deputising service and nursing homes and hospitals, providing the balance in roughly equal proportions. This year has started well, the company said, with BNA's 100th branch due to open next month. BNA nurses are providing about 150,000 hours of care to patients each week. Nestor Medical Services, the nursing homes division, is on target and the Nestor Medical Deputising has started the year with a record number of calls.

Enterprise boost for Lasmo

Lasmo, the company, has been boosted by a large order from the Lloyds Bank. The order is for a new computer system to be installed in the bank's offices. The order is worth £1.5 million. The company is expected to complete the order by the end of the year. The order is a significant boost for the company, which has been struggling to find new business. The order is a result of the company's excellent service to the bank. The company is pleased with the order and expects to continue to provide excellent service to the bank in the future.

Burroughs close plant

James Burroughs, part of the Burroughs group, is closing its plant in the USA. The plant is located in the state of California. The plant has been operating for many years and has produced many products. The decision to close the plant is a result of the company's restructuring. The company is looking to reduce costs and improve efficiency. The closure of the plant is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The company is providing support to the employees of the plant during the transition.

Premier brings

Mr Colin Campbell, Premier's chief executive, has announced that the company is bringing in a new chief financial officer. The new CFO is expected to start work in the near future. The company is looking for a CFO who has experience in the pharmaceutical industry. The new CFO will be responsible for the company's financial operations. The company is confident that the new CFO will bring a fresh perspective to the role.

Saunders' flight

Mr Saunders, the chairman of the company, has announced that he is stepping down from his position. The company is looking for a new chairman. The company is confident that it will find a suitable replacement for Mr Saunders. The company is grateful to Mr Saunders for his contribution to the company. The company is looking forward to the future.

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Moving u

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Hambro Countrywide soars as homes boom continues

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Pretax profits of Hambro Countrywide, the estate agency and mortgage branch of the Hambro merchant banking group, leapt 55 per cent during 1987, as home buying activity showed no signs of slowing.

Profits rose from £16.3 million to £25.2 million as Hambro Countrywide acted in the sale of more than 69,500 homes, worth nearly £4 billion. The financial services division lent more than 24,650 mortgages worth £825 million.

Hambro Countrywide said that house prices remained firm in those parts of the country where it is most strongly represented. Prices in the South-east and East Anglia rose by 20 to 30 per cent. In other areas, such as South

Manchester, Birmingham and the Fylde coast, prices went up by 15 to 20 per cent. Prices in the north also rose although they did not show the same level of growth.

With 54 per cent of profits coming from residential property sales, the estate agency chain made an average profit of £200 on each house sold. Mr Christopher Spoorborg, head of Hambro Countrywide, said that although it was not the biggest estate agency chain in Britain, it was the most profitable.

The company experienced a sharp rise in costs of about £1 million, however, as it expanded its branch network by 48 offices. It now has 480 around Britain.

Hambro Countrywide has stopped buying existing estate

ICI buys Berger arm in Australia

By Cliff Feldham

Williams Holdings, the industrial conglomerate, is selling the Australian interests of its Berger paint business to ICI Australia for £51.6 million. The sale marks a further step towards breaking up the Berger group which Williams acquired earlier this year for £133 million.

In the latest deal, ICI is buying 11 companies based in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Papua New Guinea. The most important of them are Selleys Chemical Company which makes adhesives, sealants and decorative supplies; and BPA Industries, which sells decorative paints under the Berger British brand name.

The companies being sold to ICI made a loss before tax of £3.6 million last year on sales of £94 million.

COMMENT Guinness: round one for Takeover Panel

Had the High Court yesterday ruled in favour of Guinness rather than the Takeover Panel, the Panel's officials would today probably be clearing out their desks and scanning the "sits vac" columns in the morning papers.

Such was the talk being whispered not only in the City but within the Panel itself. Although publicly the watchdog's spokesmen would have brushed aside such a setback — claiming that the Guinness episode was exceptional in that it came so long after the Distillers bid — Panel insiders concede that defeat would have damaged its standing in the City as much as victory has strengthened it.

Lord Justice Watkins said the Panel had chosen to step into a minefield of explosive situations which, as a general rule, should be avoided.

But while he saw no procedural impropriety, the court was not ruling that the Panel's decision was correct, merely that it had not reached its decision improperly.

The judge also told the packed courtroom that the new Guinness board was deserving of sympathy in its efforts to deal with what he called "an awful inheritance" in the interests of the company's future, its shareholders and "anyone who may claim to be adversely

affected financially by whatever the manner in which Guinness took over Distillers".

He added: "The vast implications of the additional burden which will be cast upon it by the decision of the Panel... seem to the directors to be just about the last straw."

While Guinness is not rushing to appeal, it cannot hide its disappointment either. Its key complaint has not been whether or not the City Code has been infringed, rather that the Panel acted too quickly in reaching any decision on the matter, allowing insufficient time for all the evidence to be reviewed fully.

Antony Beever, the Takeover Panel's director-general, says that barring any appeal by Guinness — which he will contest — he will now resume the interrupted discussions with Guinness's advisers with the aim of recompensing former Distillers shareholders who might have been short-changed by Guinness's involvement in the alleged concert party buying of Distillers shares.

In this task, he should employ the very same haste of which Guinness has been accusing him. Former Distillers shareholders, patiently clutching their share invoices, have been waiting long enough.

Enterprise boost for Lasmo

Lasmo, the independent oil company, has reported improved profits for last year both before and after tax, largely due to the success of its competitor Enterprise Oil.

Of the £22.3 million after-tax profit, £14.6 million came from dividend payments from the Lasmo shareholding in Enterprise Oil. The profit compares with £18 million the previous year.

Lasmo increased its stake in Enterprise to 25.3 per cent during the year, taking advantage of the drop in share prices after stock market collapse. The Enterprise holding is now valued at around £250 million, compared with the acquisition cost of £110 million.

Lasmo's profits before tax rose from £4 million in 1986 to £36 million. A final dividend of 5.2p is to be paid, taking the full-year dividend to 7.7p, compared to 7p last year.

Burrough to close plant

James Burrough Distillers, part of Whitebread group, is to shut its bottling plant at Kennington, south London, in October, with a loss of 300 jobs.

The distillery and headquarters operations will continue in London with employment for about 75 people.

Transfer of bottling and associated activities to a 100-acre site at Glasgow will create 70 permanent and 40 temporary jobs. There will be relocation assistance for those moving jobs from London.



Bright picture: John Floyd, Christie's retiring chairman, unveiling record profits yesterday

Christies up 77% to £32.5m

By Colin Campbell

Christie's International, the fine art auctioneer, reporting on a year during which it brought down the hammer on Van Gogh's *Sunflowers* for a world record price of £24.75 million, says the international art market remains strong and it views 1988 with optimism.

Mr John Floyd, the retiring chairman who will be replaced by Lord Carrington in July, yesterday unveiled record pre-tax profits of £32.5 million for the year ended December against £18.4 million, a 77 per cent increase. The final dividend goes up from 6p to 10p a

share, making 13p (7.5p) for the year, covered 3.5 times.

Mr Floyd said that while there was some uncertainty since the October crash, and some doubts about its ripple effect through the art market, this had proved to be short-lived.

"In the auction rooms we have made an encouraging start (to 1988) and the art market continues to be strong worldwide. We have many important sales scheduled and although it is early in our financial year, I am optimistic that 1988 will be more than satisfactory," he added.

Mr Floyd said 1987 was an

"exceptional year" with strong demand at all levels of the art market. Turnover was 37 per cent up at £96.7 million, sales 49 per cent higher at £600 million, and net earnings a share rose by 92 per cent to 45.41p a share.

The shares responded with an 8p rise to 541p.

Sotheby's, which is still considering whether and when to come back to the stock market, yesterday said worldwide auction sales for 1987 totalled a record \$1.42 billion (£764 million), compared with \$897.6 million in 1986. As it is still a private company, it is not disclosing profits.

Johnston Group up to £7.3m

A strong performance by the civil engineering and property development operations helped Johnston Group to pre-tax profits of £7.3 million in 1987, up from £6.9 million last time.

Civil engineering and related activities more than doubled their contribution to £5.2 million, while engineering and hydraulics suffered a £1.7 million turnaround to plunge £543,000 into the red.

Civil engineering supplies also experienced a downturn, contributing £2.6 million, against £3.7 million last time.

The board says order books in almost all subsidiaries are promising.

Scottish Heritable leaps 61%

Scottish Heritable Trust, the diversified York group, lifted pre-tax profits by 61 per cent to £10 million in 1987, on a turnover up from £70 million to £88 million.

Earnings per share are 16 pence higher at 17.7p and the total dividend is up 1p to 3p, with a 3p final.

Haven Homes, the group's US house-building operation, made a full contribution for the first time, and — with three months' figures from the 30 per cent-owned North American Housing Corporation — was responsible for £3.2 million. Floor coverings earned £3.49 million, against £3.17 million.

Premier brings flotation plan forward

By Colin Campbell

Premier Brands, born out of a £97 million management buy-out from Cadbury Schweppes in May 1986, has brought its plans for a stock market flotation forward to 1989.

This follows sharply higher profits in the 12 months ended January 2.

The group handles Typhoo and specialty teas, Cadbury's chocolate biscuits and exports 11,000 tons of produce annually from Britain, as well as

selling enough tea bags to make 45 million cups a day. It saw pre-tax profits jump from £9.2 million to £18 million last year.

Turnover, from continuing business, advanced from £280.5 million to £315 million, and the trading return on sales rose from 5.3 per cent to 7.9 per cent. Further margin improvement is forecast in the current year.

Mr Paul Judge, the chairman, announced earlier this week the acquisition of the

London Herb and Spice Company, the group's eighth deal since the management buy-out.

In 1987, Premier made four acquisitions for a total cash outlay of £28 million, which generated £20 million in turnover. Their turnover contribution is expected to rise to £50 million this financial year.

The group has yet to define its flotation timetable, but believes it has now firmly established a strong profit record which should be further enhanced this year.

Premier operates from nine factories and six distribution depots throughout Britain, and has subsidiary companies in Dublin, Paris, Pisa and Boston. It remains anxious for further acquisitions.

Yesterday, Mr Judge hinted that "a couple more acquisitions could be on the boil".

The group spent £19 million on marketing last year, and yesterday added that the current year had started well.

Saunders' flight

Why is it that aeroplanes are always delayed at the most inconvenient moments? Former Guinness chairman Ernest Saunders, attempting to make a discreet departure from Britain last Thursday night for his family home in Switzerland — via an economy seat on a British Caledonian plane to Geneva — found himself forced to sit out a 40 minute delay in a crowded Gatwick departure lounge. To his horror he was recognized by a number of fellow passengers, two of whom introduced themselves and subjected him to a barrage of questions. Another passenger who witnessed the scene tells me: "He was very solemn, wearing a dark blue suit, but he looked much healthier than he has done for some time."

Once the plane landed, Saunders startled other passengers by sprinting across the tarmac and through customs — with, I'm told, more than one of his curious fellow travellers in hot pursuit.

What a good idea President Reagan is planning to ensure that income tax and all other official forms carry a printed notice estimating how much time is required to fill them out. The idea has apparently been endorsed by the US Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers and a number of blue chip corporations. But accountants and lawyers are said to be not quite so keen. Kenneth A Fogash, of the US Securities & Exchange Commission, says that the agency

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

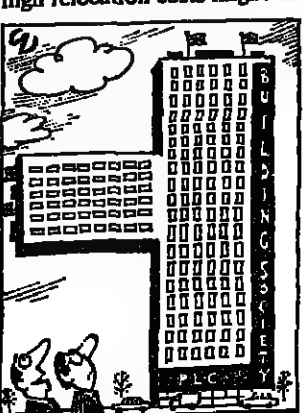
The foresight saga

Jolly Jenny Nibbs, stores analyst at Capel-Cure Myers had a premonition yesterday. Convinced that the helicopter hired by Next to ferry journalists and City analysts up to its Leicester headquarters would crash, she refused to be thus transported — plumping for the safety of good old British Rail instead. Not previously known for her psychic powers

— although such a talent would undoubtedly be a blessing for any analyst — her vision proved to be mistaken. I am assured that everyone returned safely. Nibbs — married to fellow CCM employee David Grant — was unfortunately unavailable for comment last night. She was apparently still stuck on a train.

would be "inundated with complaints from irate persons who feel they were overcharged by their attorneys or accountants" for work exceeding official time estimates. For sure.

Moving up
Companies grappling with high relocation costs might be



"They decided it was time to branch out."

consoled to learn of the astonishing costs incurred by the White House. According to a US committee, it will cost \$3.5 million to move President Reagan's successor into the White House — and \$1 million for Reagan to move out when he returns to California in January. The Capital Government and Operations Committee has apparently agreed to increase the President elect's allowance for transitional expenses, for the first time in 12 years, from \$2 million to \$3.5 million. Additional funds — in addition, that is, to his existing \$1 million allowance — will also be made available to Reagan, but under a different law.

At a City dinner the chairman dined on and on to the despairing boredom of his captive audience. Came some voice from the next table: "I have seen better conversations in alphabet soup."

Carol Leonard

Go-ahead for Britoil £62m oil field plan

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britoil, the Glasgow oil company in the process of being merged into BP, has been given Government approval to develop its Don oil field in the North Sea.

The field will come on stream, using a subsea production system, with oil being pumped 15 kilometres south to the Thistle Field production system.

Oil will initially flow at a rate of 12,000 barrels a day, and in the first stage of the development, Britoil plans to spend £62 million in tapping 24 million barrels of reserves. The field contains an estimated 56 million barrels of reserves.

Contracts worth £16 million have already been placed with GEC for control systems, British Steel for pipes with more than half the amount being spent on the design and installation of the subsea components.

The go-ahead was announced yesterday by Mr Peter Morrison, the Energy Minister, at a conference on subsea technology in London.

He said: "Subsea production technology is a cost-effective solution to the development of marginal fields. Without it, many of the fields recently developed and planned for development both in the North Sea and elsewhere would not have gone ahead."

THE LAIRD GROUP

Another year of growth

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Year to 31 December	1987	1986
Sales	£395.6m	£363.1m
Profit before taxation	£32.6m	£28.2m
Earnings per Stock Unit	25.1p	23.0p
Dividends per Stock Unit	7.7p	7.0p

- * Profit and earnings at record levels
- * Dividend increased for sixteenth successive year
- * Profits from Sealing Systems continue to climb
- * Transport Systems order book £300m
- * Strong advance by Service Industries
- * £70m of capital expenditure in last three years to permit further expansion

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Service Industries
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Copies of the Annual Report & Accounts will be available, after 29 April 1988, from the Secretary.

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No.	Company	Group	Share Price
1	Farnell Elect	Electronics	100
2	Smith & Gen	Banking/Discount	100
3	Continental	Property	100
4	Widened (Consolid)	Building/Roads	100
5	Scholes (GHI)	Electronics	100
6	Goldring (A)	Property	100
7	Hawker Siddeley (a)	Industrial E-K	100
8	Ash & Lacey	Industrial A-D	100
9	Williams Higgs (a)	Industrial S-Z	100
10	Elliot (B)	Industrial E-K	100
11	TMI (a)	Industrial E-K	100
12	Dalrymple (a)	Food	100
13	Knix Save	Food	100
14	Wor	Industrial S-Z	100
15	Scott Henshall	Industrial S-Z	100
16	BAA (a)	Industrial A-D	100
17	Lower HS & B	Property/Adv	100
18	Norcross	Industrial L-R	100
19	Glenzie	Property	100
20	Addison Cons	Property/Adv	100
21	Sheraton Secs	Property	100
22	Reckon Colman (a)	Industrial L-R	100
23	Norfolk Hse	Industrial L-R	100
24	Bent Bros	Building/Roads	100
25	Gr Portland	Property	100
26	De Mohr	Textiles	100
27	Parfume	Property	100
28	Branning	Property/Adv	100
29	Bentley Inv	Industrial A-D	100
30	Broken Hill	Industrial A-D	100
31	Utd Newspapers (a)	Newspaper/Pub	100
32	Smith Ind	Industrial S-Z	100
33	Rumtice (a)	Food	100
34	Raglan	Property	100
35	Fitch Lovell	Food	100
36	Eng China Clay (a)	Industrial E-K	100
37	FTC (a)	Electronics	100
38	Wholesale Fitting	Electronics	100
39	Taylor Woodrow	Building/Roads	100
40	Hewitt (J)	Industrial E-K	100
41	Waco	Property	100
42	Calder-Schwab (a)	Food	100
43	Heller	Industrial E-K	100
44	DRG	Property/Adv	100

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend				
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8.00 in Friday's newspaper.				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

The opposing authorities had clearly suffered substantial prej-

MEDIA & MARKETING

Closed shops in shot

How will independent TV companies react to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation?
Andrew Lycett finds them willing but wary



At the end of it, the commission, he pointed out, will take up a significant amount of management time. "When you're in the business of making programmes, you want to get on with it."

Dr Brownlee added, "The government believes that ITV is riddled with restrictive practices. It presumably wants the commission to say this is the reality. There are of course cases where work practices still need attending to. But our attitude as a TV company is that there's never a day when we're not looking at working practices. By all means let the commission look at the situation. But my belief is that it will not be half as bad as some people anticipate."

Independent observers say that ITV companies have been stung into making

A senior ITV executive explained that it is relatively easy to make local agreements with the decentralized ACTT; the talent unions are more centralized and difficult to deal with. Mrs Thatcher is reported to have been incensed at the way Equity upset the launch of Superchannel last year with its demands for residual payments for its members. Technically any actor in Equity can prevent the sale of a film to, say, Israeli television, if he does not agree with its national policies.

ITV companies have set about tackling restrictive practices in different ways. Jean Deunham, Central's spokesman on employment affairs, talks of "winning employees' hearts and minds" through a soft, softly approach to union matters. Of 58 people who have left Central since January 1st, only 22 have been replaced.

Graham Good, Grampian Television's company secretary, says a small regional company like his has already been forced towards efficiency: one third of its staff are non-union. London Weekend Television, on the other hand, has gone for the big bang. Last week it presented its unions with a shopping list of demands, such as the stipulation that no one should be paid more than twice the rate for the job as overtime. Its next round of talks with the unions is next week. Barry Cox, Corporate Affairs Director, said: "We could not have asked for a more sensible and calm response to such a radical set of proposals."

The BBC meanwhile has plausibly stood aside from this fray. Its Director General has welcomed the inquiry. The ACTT is not a recognized union at the BBC, where around half the staff belong to no union at all.

For independent producers, David Graham, boss of Divine Productions, said the inquiry offered an opportunity for further identifying "practices that make our industry uncompetitive."

The wariness of the ITV companies, of course, may simply be related to their fear of losing their own monopoly: in advertising.

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BY LINES

Talking to terrorists

Tempting though the idea must be, the Government has apparently ruled out a blanket ban throughout the United Kingdom on television and radio interviews with terrorists. In the Republic, interviews not only with the IRA but also with its political wing, Sinn Féin, have been banned for the past 28 years: last week Section 31 of the Irish Broadcasting Act was used for the first time to justify the sacking of a journalist at Radio Telefís Éireann, Jenny McGeever. She had recorded an interview with Martin McGuinness from Provisional Sinn Féin, broadcast on the radio programme *Morning Ireland* (the programme's editor failed out an interview with Gerry Adams later on the same tape).

Opponents of Section 31 argue that it is authoritarian — and both opponents and supporters agree that it is often rendered meaningless by the ready availability in Ireland of BBC and ITV, which frequently interview Provisional Sinn Féin spokesmen. Indeed RTE, which is barred from broadcasting interviews itself, relays the British channels to thousands of Dublin homes via its Cablelink network.

"It's extremely anomalous and unhelpful that the BBC and ITV keep broadcasting Adams into our territory," said one supporter of Section 31. "It makes life impossible."

Euro-splurge

The Labour Party, highly critical of the amount the Government is spending on advertising, is not above the odd newspaper ad itself, especially when someone else is paying. The party's 32 Euro-MPs have nearly £1 million of Euro-money to spend this year on an information campaign about the European Parliament, and are planning a campaign of newspaper ads, leaflets and public meetings. The Tories, with more Euro-MPs, have between £2 and £3 million to spend; while the Department of Trade and Industry has earmarked £5 million for telling us about the single European market. Euro-MP Barry Seal says Labour had been against the Parliament voting itself the money, but that since it was available they might as well spend it.

Birds in the Bush

The BBC External Services' dining-cum-cricket club, the Bushmen, has failed to achieve a sufficient majority of members in favour of admitting women, after an annual general meeting which decided (on the chairman's casting vote) to increase the requirement for a change in the club's rules from a simple majority to two-thirds. This resolute resistance to the modern world has already lost it some of its most senior members, including Chris Bell, John Tass's number two at Bush House, and Peter Uddell, controller of European

Services, who think membership of a single-sex club incompatible with their job of recruiting staff for an equal opportunities employer.

Missing Elton

Elton John disappointed many last Friday by failing to turn up to the UK Music Radio conference at the South Bank at which he was to have been the star attraction. A master tape had been inadvertently wiped and "contractual obligations" obliged him to remain in Los Angeles, where he was recording a new album, said his manager, in an apologetic note delivered when the conference was already under way.

Briefly

Eddy Shah was making no comment this week on reports that he is thinking of reviving his plan for a new daily, *The Star*, which he announced had been killed off after the Budget... Fewer than a dozen charities have so far shown an interest in advertising on TV, following the IBA's relaxation of the ban on charity ads last month, according to the ITV Association... Mirror Group has told newspaper distributors in London to improve their service by November or risk losing its business... EMAP has closed down its monthly financial magazine, *Money Business*, launched in the wake of the crash last October... Nick Higham

Can't buy me love?

Computers have taken on the hunt for songs to sell by

With everyone from Peacock nappies ("Tidy Bitty Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini") to Peugeot GT10 cars ("Take My Breath Away") in the market for memorable pop songs, it is not surprising that the computer is now narrowing down the search for appropriate oldies.

Songseekers, a Camden-based music consultancy, has announced that, to aid its clients, it has completed nine programmes which list every best selling single (Top 100) since 1952. These 20,000 songs are cross-referenced by mood, subject, phrases, year and chart position.

Songseekers' managing director, Ruth Simmons, who formed the company in 1980 to liaise between advertising agencies and music publishers, says the computer became necessary because it was not always possible to track down the right song by title alone.

"We may have a client acting for a bank, and we need to look for songs relating to money, freedom, security and savings," she says. "The National Sound Archives have title listings on computer but you can't find songs that suggest a particular mood in that way."

"Also, we're able to categorize songs by phrases so that we have 'Sunny Afternoon' by the Kinks under money as well as sunshine, because of the line 'the taxman's taken all I've got', and Don McLean's 'American Pie' is under philosophical and travelling rather than pastry."

Some of Songseekers' recent successes include "What A Feeling" for Maltersers, "We Are The Champions" for Ford Sierra and "Just My Imagination" for Littlewoods Catalogue. The brief for the Maltersers campaign was to find a song with uplifting words which suggested the feeling of having a good time without being dependent on someone else.

Steve Turner

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Home & Law publishes over 40 magazines and our list of titles is growing all the time. As well as leading newstand titles we are also the UK's largest publisher of targeted courtesy magazines for clients including Texas Homecare, TSB Trustcard, The Royal Horticultural Society and Pearl Assurance - producing over 60 million magazine copies per year. We are an energetic, fast expanding company with real opportunities for the enthusiastic and hard working.

New Business Executives

This is a key position capitalising on our proven publishing and direct marketing expertise as leading publishers of free and client-sponsored magazines. The successful applicant will be responsible for establishing contact with key marketing people, largely in the retail and financial services sector, and developing new and often complex magazine concepts to satisfy clients' needs. Full sales/marketing research back-up will be provided.

This is a high profile position, requiring an enthusiastic, highly motivated and committed person aged 23-30, educated to degree level ideally in business/management studies or associated disciplines, who can learn rapidly and apply his/her communication skills effectively. A proven sales track record is essential and experience in media, direct marketing or publishing fields would be an advantage. An attractive salary package including company car and bonuses is offered. (Ref.HL/1/7)

Exhibition Sales Manager

The successful candidate for this post will have the ability to negotiate with senior marketing and sales management in the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry. This position underpins the group's above-the-line publications by offering the industry the means of reaching health professionals through an extensive programme of exhibitions, sample mailing services and a clinic advisory team which demonstrates and promotes a range of products to health professionals throughout the UK.

The task is to sell these services and exhibition stand space. Sales experience and some knowledge of the healthcare market would be an advantage. Attractive salary package plus company car. (Ref.HL/2/1)

Professional Services, Team Manager
This is a key management post. The principle area of responsibility is the motivation and administration of a promotional team of twelve. This task is to demonstrate, promote and sample a range of manufacturer's products to health professionals in health centres and clinics.

A background in the healthcare industry would be an advantage but not essential. Frequent travel throughout the UK will be necessary. Attractive salary plus company car. (Ref.HL/3/7)

Advertising Sales Manager

We require an experienced agency/client sales representative to work on controlled circulation titles on behalf of a specific client. The job includes active sales and client liaison along with team management. Applicants will be directly responsible for advertising revenue across a number of titles. Attractive salary plus company car. (Ref.HL/4/7)

Ad Manager - Hilton Hotels Magazine

We are looking for an ambitious self-starter to take on role of Ad Manager to develop this long established, prestige quarterly. The successful candidate will have at least 2-3 years experience selling to agencies and clients - he/she will have the opportunity to progress to Ad Director status within 18 months. Attractive salary package plus bonuses and company car. (Ref.HL/5/7)

We are also seeking recruits for the following key support roles: Sales Secretaries - (Ref.HL/6/7) Telephone Sales Administrator - (Ref.HL/7/7) Internal Conference Administrator - (Ref.HL/8/7) Graduate for magazine production - (Ref.HL/9/7) Bought Ledger Clerk - (Ref.HL/10/7) Part-Time Secretary - (Ref.HL/11/7)

Please apply in writing with your CV, quoting the appropriate Reference code to: Julie Price, Office Manager, Home & Law Publishing Limited, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, London NW1 7QD.

SENIOR BRAND MANAGERS NORTHANTS c. £15,000 + Car

As one of the most operationally effective express parcel carriers, United Carriers Limited provide a comprehensive collection and delivery service throughout the United Kingdom. Their current reputation with consumer and trade has been built by a combination of innovative development and the highest quality customer service.

As a major step in enhancing the Company's products and services there is now an exciting expansion programme creating the opportunity for two dynamic Brand Managers to take key responsibility to advance the growth of the Company.

These are demanding positions and will require candidates in their mid to late 20s, well educated with 3-5 years brand management experience, and in their second or third marketing position.

The rewards are a range of benefits, commensurate with a large successful Company, and the career prospects are excellent.

Candidates should be highly creative, innovative and be able to work successfully in a pressurised environment. Excellent verbal and written communications skills and the ability to work with, in, and for a team are essential characteristics.

Male or female applicants should write in confidence to David Emsley, P-E Inbucon, Executive Search and Selection Division, 692 Warwick Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 3DX with a comprehensive CV, or telephone 021 784 2212 for an Application Form quoting Ref. B2145.

P-E Inbucon

Search & Selection

SALES PROFESSIONALS

We are an established consultancy specialising in the professional and discreet recruitment of high calibre sales people. Our expertise ensures that we place you in the position that you are looking for. We will not waste your time.

Amongst our many current vacancies we are looking for:

Sales Executive - Design Services

OTE £24,000 + Car + Benefits

This successful design company are currently seeking a highly motivated professional to sell their design and refurbishment services to business. They offer excellent prospects and earning potential in return for your 2 yrs sales experience and ability to negotiate at high level.

Sales Professionals - Advertising

£13,000 + Car + Benefits

The company is the Market leader in directory advertising - they are looking for outstanding individuals to join their successful sales force. They offer high on target earnings and excellent prospects into Management.

International Courier Services - Sales Executive

Up to £13,000 Basic + High OTE + Car

Being part of a major group involved in transport and security services, this company offers an unbeatable opportunity for a young Sales Executive to sell their services in the City and West End. You will have at least 2 yrs sales experience, preferably in a service industry.

For a confidential discussion on your next career move please call

01 686 2842 - Office Hrs or:
01 671 6077 - Eve's & Weekends.

LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • MANCHESTER • BRISTOL

RECRUITMENT

AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH SPORT

Soccer - Cricket - Rugby - Horse Racing - Australian Football - Gaelic Football

Farnham-based company specialising in Production and Marketing of televised sport, internationally, requires two personnel. Both jobs will suit applicants aged 22-40 and involve the handling of a range of televised sporting events.

SALES PERSON

Experience of both selling and television essential and a serious interest in football for a great advantage. Capacity to travel extensively essential. Salary package negotiable.

TRAFFIC MANAGER

The primary role of this person will be to supervise and control the preparation, despatch and receipt of tapes to and from clients around the world. This person should also be prepared to travel and have the ability to assist with central office administration making satellite bookings etc, training given. Salary negotiable.

TV PRODUCERS SPORTS COMMENTATORS
In the near future CSI will require Sport TV Producers and male/female Commentators adept at Rugby, Cricket and General Sports (send tape-returnable)



Applicants should send CV with covering letter which will be treated in strictest confidence to: John Saunders, CSI Limited, Arundell House, Arundell Place, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7ES.

SALES EXECUTIVES TRAIN IN RECRUITMENT GOOD BASIC + HIGH COMM + COMPANY CAR AFTER 12 MONTHS. (FIRST YEAR PROBABLE £23,000) PRE-FLOATATION EXPANSION.

We offer - A Client Bank of 5000 companies. A Candidate Registration of 700 p.m. An Advertising Budget of £300,000 p.a. A profit increase of 67% this year.

Is it surprising that you want this kind of back-up?
Is it surprising that we are expanding our recruitment consultancy force?
Is it surprising that you want to know more about having a career with us?

If you want to work in a DEALER-ROOM environment with DEALER-ROOM rewards and are 23-35 with 2 years sales experience.

CALL ELAINE HAYWARD or IRENE FOX ON

01-631 3275

ALEXANDER MANN ASSOCIATES PLC
SPECIALISTS IN SALES RECRUITMENT

TELEMARKETING

c.£12,500 OTE

The Company ... Dun & Bradstreet, the world's leading supplier of business information services, is relocating to a prestigious, purpose-built site in High Wycombe in late 1988.

The people ... young, outgoing, highly committed, able to work on their own initiative and as part of a team, will ideally have some telephone sales experience.

The challenge ... providing valuable market research information and qualified sales leads for blue-chip companies.

The deal ... you will relocate with us in 1989 but, in the meantime, you will join our City offices. The remuneration package includes a competitive salary, bonus and a range of company benefits.

The action ... phone John Farrelly on 01-377 4377 for further information or write, giving full career and salary details, to Dun & Bradstreet International Limited, 26/32 Clifton Street, London EC2P 2LY.

DB Dun & Bradstreet International

CAREER MOVE! Management Opportunity in Marketing

You have copywriting talent and creative flair, you can put together direct mail packages that sell, and you have the organisational skills to get the job done.

Now you are ready for a new challenge and to have the management skills to advance further up the career ladder.

Due to our ambitious expansion plans we are able to offer that opportunity. The successful candidate will be educated to degree level and have a minimum of 2-3 years experience.

As a progressive company with an established reputation we offer excellent career prospects/opportunities together with an attractive benefits package.

Please apply in writing, stating your salary expectation to: Janet Adels, Personnel Officer.

Croner Publications Ltd.
173 Kingston Road
New Malden
Surrey, KT3 3SS



Croner Publications Ltd

THE BERTRAM MEDIA DIVISION GRADUATE TRAINEES ADVERTISING SALES

As one of the leading specialist sales recruitment consultancies in London we are able to offer a large variety of positions to graduates or trainees with the ability to work in a hectic and progressive sales environment.

Our Media division are currently interviewing for the following areas in media sales: Consumer Publication, Specialist, Enthusiastic Magazines, Trade and Technical Journals, National and Regional Newspapers, Exhibitions, Annual Directories, Catalogues and Television Air Time Negotiation.

No experience is necessary but you must have excellent communications skills together with the commitment, enthusiasm and ambition to match the career potential that our clients are able to offer you.

If you feel you have the necessary qualities and would like an interview.

Call us and convince us.

Jo Cooper, Karen Haskell and Frank Perkins

01 623 4688

58 Houndsditch
London EC3A 7DL



ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE REQUIRED FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCAST ENGINEER

The successful applicant must already have display advertisement sales experience, you have the necessary skills to sell advertising space to both clients and advertising agencies worldwide at all levels.

The position calls for self motivation and the ability to work alongside the Advertisement Manager selling in a highly competitive market.

An excellent basic salary and commission arrangement and company car are provided, plus normal business expenses paid.

Please apply in writing to:

Bob Kennedy
International Broadcast Engineer
International Trade Publications Ltd,
Queensway House, 2 Queensway,
Redhill, Surrey RH1 1QS

SEMINAR CONSULTANT

Dynamic self-motivated person who wishes to succeed outside of normal secretarial duties is sought by thriving company to promote and organise its business and educational seminars.

For those tired of the routine an exciting challenge exists to earn above average income in the Thames Valley Region. Applicants will be required as part of selection to attend a seminar in order to understand the concept and in addition to usual keyboard skills will be expected to take absolute charge of this new venture. The office is a non-smoking area, so the policy of the Company is no smoking.

Please either write to:

The Chairman,
The Covenant Group,
12-24 Warwick Road,
Beaconsfield,
Bucks AP9 2PE
or Telephone (04946) 77055

ADVERTISING SALES ON TARGET EARNINGS £40K p.a.

The launch of a series of major international titles has created opportunities for effective ambitious sales people. If you are able to talk to senior executives in a professional and convincing manner then we would like to talk to you.

There are likely to be early management opportunities for the most successful applicants. In the first instance please call David Conway or Ben Crocker on 01-240 1515

ADVERTISING SALES

£17,500 + car

You will be young, ambitious, full of energy and looking to progress an already successful sales career (1 year in sales reqd). Best salary of at least £11K. Genuine £17,500 OTE plus company car, further development training and progressive prospects.

Alastair Ames
01 409 1238
Dunelm Limited
& Assoc (Apy)

Where are you, suitable?
Senior Account Executive?

We are an international business-to-business advertising agency based in London and Newbury. We urgently need an additional Senior Account Executive not only to assist in the day-to-day account management but also - as your record will demonstrate - to bring in and maintain new business.

You will be practical and should have at least a basic understanding of electronics or computers or engineering. You will have specific experience in account handling and a working knowledge of production techniques; you will be familiar with trade and technical media and, whatever your age, you will be self-motivated and hardworking.

For the right person, we are ready to negotiate an excellent salary and other benefits commensurate with your experience and all-round qualities. Interested ones to be either London or Newbury.

Please write, giving full details of age, education, experience and the salary you expect, to:

The Managing Director,
G.J. Nicholls & Associates Limited,
88/87 Exmouth Road, London SW3 1DS
or to:
Richardson House, Bath Road, Newbury,
Berkshire, RG13 1QT

SOOTHEY'S FOUNDED 1744

We are strengthening our in-house marketing expertise through two new appointments:

CREATIVE/DESIGN DIRECTOR

To design the whole spectrum of Sotheby's customer publications, advertising and promotional literature. To influence design throughout the Company.

COPYWRITER

Working with the Creative/Design director, to provide original copy to edit others' text for our publications, ads and brochures.

You may be in publishing, advertising promotions or design, ideally with experience in two of these areas. You should enjoy the challenge of being the creative 'heart' of a corporate environment dedicated to fine art.

Please send your C.V. including current salary to Susie Ching at
Kendall Tarrant,
83 Charlotte Street, London W1P 1LB

Burgess

A Rare Sales Opportunity

Burgess is a privately owned company employing 170 people using advanced typesetting and data processing equipment together with the latest computerised five, six and seven unit presses. We produce journals, commercial work, art prints and greetings cards to the very highest quality in a unique new purpose-built factory.

As a busy and successful company we require an experienced sales person to create further opportunities. If you are a highly professional negotiator who seeks to provide to customers the finest in quality and service, we should like to hear from you.

An excellent remuneration package is offered. Please write or telephone Cliff Green, Sales Director.

BURGESS & SON (ABINGDON) LTD
Thames View, Abingdon, Oxon. OX14 3LE.
Telephone 0235 555555

CREATIVE
MEDIA SALE EXECUTIVES
Specialist Publications
£10-12,000 p.a. Basic
Company Car and Comm

25 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4EJ

GfK Market Research Limited

Join a leading market research company...
GfK Market Research Limited is a leading market research company...
We are looking for...
GfK Market Research Limited
100 Brook Hill Drive
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 0AP
Tel: 01256 343434

PRINTING WORLD

FEATURES EDITOR
We are looking for a...
Print World
100 Brook Hill Drive
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 0AP
Tel: 01256 343434

FASHION - MAIL

Upminster...
Fashion Mail
100 Brook Hill Drive
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 0AP
Tel: 01256 343434

LA CREME

Parfums Christian Dior
SECRETARIES
100 Brook Hill Drive
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 0AP
Tel: 01256 343434

WP OPERATOR
£9-10,000
B4 CONSULTANCY
100 Brook Hill Drive
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 0AP
Tel: 01256 343434

ENTS ANAGERS

press parcel carriers, United Carriers and delivery service throughout the country. The company has been successful in the highest quality products and services there is now no opportunity for two dynamic individuals to advance the growth of the company and their mid to late management experience, and in their management with a large successful client base.

active and capable to work with a variety of clients and a team are

confidence to David Emsley, Division, 652 Warwick Road,

CREATIVE MEDIA & MARKETING

MEDIA SALES EXECUTIVES

Specialist Publications

£10-12,000 p.a. basic Company Car and Commission

If you have experience of selling advertising space and are interested in making a career in publishing, the specialist magazine market can offer you full product training, professional sales support and real opportunities for promotion based on your individual performance. You will have the benefit of selling a well known and respected title within its market, with controlled circulation giving quality targeted readership to your advertisers. If you are keen to move into the professional side of publishing then telephone Sue Hedges now on 01-242 4440 quoting ref.805.

Sales Recruitment Consultants
25 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4HE

MORGAN-KEATING-ASSOCIATES

BUTTERWORTH & CO. (PUBLISHERS) LTD.

DATABASE MANAGER

Butterworths, the UK's leading law, tax, accountancy and banking publishers, are looking for a manager for their direct mail department.

The job requires a wide range of skills and will involve the day-to-day control of a marketing database, currently in the early stages of development. It calls for close liaison with various departments within the organisation and will cover all aspects of database management, the monitoring and evaluation of its performance and market research.

Candidates should be graduates in a business studies or marketing related discipline and have at least two years' database management and/or direct marketing experience. The job is based at our offices in Borough Green, near Sevenoaks, in Kent. The salary is around £18,000 and the conditions of employment are excellent.

Please send c.v. to:
The Personnel Department
Butterworth & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.
85 Kingsway
London WC2B 6AB

Butterworths

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Am I Dreaming?

£11,000 plus perks

Yes, it is possible to work in Knightsbridge with really nice people, thoroughly enjoy your fascinating job and have excellent career prospects. If you are keen to hone down the typing and to have the involvement this could be the job for you. Plenty of people contact and real responsibility in an environment that is literally buzzing with activity and bright people can only be a recipe for success. If you have good typing, plenty ofumph and are 21+ - then you must ring us on 01-493 0713 to hear more!

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

PUBLISHING

£12,000 + BONUS

PA/Office Manager, 25+ to assist the Director of a major publishing company in Kensington. Previous supervisory and office management experience + shorthand/wp skills please.

01-377 8600/01-439 7001

NO SHORTHAND

£11,000 + NEG

A true opportunity to get involved - the last secretary was a member of the Stock Exchange and had her own clients! As secretary at these City Stockbrokers you need a good speaking voice + audio skills. Age 22+.

01-377 8600/01-439 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS

PROMOTE TRANS-ATLANTIC BUSINESS RELATIONS

A valued member of this corporate finance team, you will provide PA/secretarial support to two partners involved in the venture and development capital community in Britain and the US.

Your confidence, organising ability and appreciation of office automation will enable you to prioritise a busy schedule which includes administrative and project work. Well-spoken, with a pleasant personality and smart appearance, you will also enhance client/investor relations. Aged 25 to 40 with WP, audio (and preferably shorthand) skills, you will enjoy a salary of c. £13,000 depending on experience/capability. Telephone 01-589 4422; 185/187 Brompton Road, SW3 1NE.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR THE RIGHT PEOPLE

GfK Market Research Limited

Join a young, fast-growing organisation!

GfK Market Research Limited, is part of the German-owned pan-European (and world-wide) market research group which specialises in retail audit research on consumer durables and consumer electronic markets according to standardised techniques throughout Europe, U.S.A. and the Far East. GfK are one of the largest research organisations in the world and are the leaders in their fields. The U.K. company has been established for seven years and is growing fast.

NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

As part of our expansion programme, we need additional senior sales/marketing people to extend sales of our continuous market-tracking service to existing client fields, to open up new client bases, and to 'pioneer' sales of research on new product fields as we develop them.

Some awareness of the retail audit research technique will be an advantage - as will a background in selling a marketing services product - but the prime requirements are the ability and enthusiasm to represent and sell a quality service in terms of its relevance to senior planning, marketing and sales managements of major manufacturing companies. The pay and benefits packages available to the right candidates are highly competitive.

DATA ORGANISATION DEPARTMENT

MANAGER

We seek a young manager for our data-entry/data organisation department which is part of a pan-European operating system. The manager will learn how the system works, what it produces, and how to operate it to maximum effect. The job involves the management of a continuous cyclical work programme and a staff of eight to ten people.

The successful candidate may come from a similar environment involving volume data handling, the understanding of a computer operating system and data entry techniques, and working to critical deadlines. Some fluency in spoken German will be a distinct advantage.

If you want to join a fast-growing group, and an enthusiastic team - and you think you fit the bill for one of these jobs - get in touch at once.

The Managing Director
GfK Market Research Ltd.,
Shear House,
Station Approach,
West Byfleet,
Surrey TW14 6NL

RETAIL APPOINTMENTS

MONSOON

There is a vacancy for the position of Manager/ess in our Beauchamp Place shop.

Applicants should have gained experience working in a similar retail environment, though this is not essential. Most important is an ability to communicate both with our customers and our staff, a real enthusiasm for selling and a sense of fun.

Applicants should apply in writing with a current CV and photograph to:

Lyn Walker
74 Winslow Road
London
W6 9SQ

EXPERIENCED AND RELIABLE AUDIO SECRETARY REQUIRED

£11,000 pa

Capable of working on own initiative and operating small switchboard.

John Brownfield & Company,
Surveyors and Valuers,
New Bond Street House,
1/5 New Bond Street,
London W1T 9PE
01-629 5861
(No Agencies)

CBS RECORDS INTERNATIONAL LTD

SENIOR SECRETARY

CBS Records International, based in Mayfair, are looking for a senior secretary to work for the Vice President, Business Affairs and Music Publishing. The VP who is responsible for advising CBS's affiliates on legal matters and coordinating business affairs' policies and procedures also oversees CBS's music publishing activities in Europe. He is looking for an experienced secretary to assist him in all aspects of his busy job.

You will require excellent secretarial skills, with the emphasis on audio and WP, be able to work under pressure at times, and to use your own initiative. Accuracy is essential and legal experience a definite advantage.

Excellent benefits include and extremely competitive salary, 25 days holiday, discount on records and free concert tickets. Please write with details of salary expectation and C.V., to: Ann Nicholson, CBS Records International Ltd., 1 Red Place, London W1Y 3RE.

SECRETARY

London W1 c.£10,500

Rome, Paris, New York or Hawaii - these are just some of the places where you could take your next holiday! Free worldwide accommodation is just one of the benefits you will receive as Secretary to our Director of Sales and Executive Assistant Manager at this luxury 4-star hotel.

Aged 23+, you will have minimum speeds of 80/60wpm, a calm, confident manner and be able to work accurately under pressure. In addition to attending to correspondence and arranging meetings you will on occasions be meeting and dealing with some of our VIP guests, so a smart appearance and good telephone manner are essential.

Hours are 9am - 5.30pm. The benefits package also includes a discretionary bonus (after 1 years' service), 20 days holiday and free hotel lunches.

For further information and to arrange an interview please call Mary on 01-486 4967.

Design

£12,000

An exciting opportunity has arisen within a successful international design company. Working for the young, innovative Managing Director you will be fully involved in all aspects of the company's work. Past experience shows that you are happy to delegate and to work as a team with the PA. On a daily basis you will be assisting the Managing Director in the design, production and delivery of a wide range of creative and commercial work. You will be responsible for the efficient running of the design department and providing a superb secretarial service.

Ideally you will have a minimum of 2 years work experience at a senior level, preferably in a service industry. If you are interested in design, a creative environment and enjoy working as a true PA then this could be the job for you.

Skills 80/60 WP experience.

01-825 0139
Recruitment Consultants

PRINTING WORLD

FEATURES EDITOR

Printing World, the industry's leading news weekly, requires a creative writer to handle its features programme. You must be capable of producing fast, accurate and interesting features to a demanding schedule on this busy weekly.

It is also important to have organisational skills and the ability to plan schedules and commission articles from a variety of people in the printing industry.

An interest in the graphic arts market though not essential, would be an advantage.

Benefits include an attractive salary, 25 days' holiday, contributory pension scheme and subsidised staff restaurant.

Please telephone 0732 364422 for an application form or write with full cv to Mrs Carol Edwards, Personnel Officer, Benn Brothers plc, Sovereign Way, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1RW.

Benn

GRADUATE TRAINEE MERCHANDISER

£8,500

NUMERATE GRADUATES

are required by our clients, one of Britain's leading Fashion Groups, to train for a career in merchandising. You need to be under 25, with a genuine desire for a future in the Fashion Industry, some work experience in a fashion or figures orientated environment is helpful, but not essential. For further details please phone:

PREMIER CREW PERSONNEL
01 493 4053

Executive Search

£13,500 +

This is a true P.A. role working on a one to one basis with a director of this prestigious and well-known search company. The company is one of the top in its field - a position earned through the efforts of a tremendous team. You'll be joining at an exciting time of growth, and work with one of their most dynamic personalities. You'll be assisting day to day management of present accounts and fully participate in winning new business.

This position would most suit a candidate who enjoys a fast moving environment; is aged between 25 and 35 and who has secretarial skills of 65 wpm and WP.

If this opportunity appeals to you please ring us on 01 439 6021 to hear more.

HAZELL-STATION
RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

MEDIA - FINANCE - ADVERTISING - SALES - PERSONNEL - MEDIA

SCHOOL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

HIGHER EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Head of Senior Management Support Team
to Chairman and Chief Executive
to £11,577

SENIOR PERSONAL SECRETARY
to Chairman and Chief Executive
to £11,577

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Curriculum Support Team
to £11,519

The School Curriculum Development Committee has 3 vacancies, 2 of which support the Chairman and Chief Executive.

HIGHER EXECUTIVE OFFICER
The Higher Executive Officer will support the Chairman and Chief Executive in key policy areas, the Board of Management and the supervision of the support team. Sound skills in administration, meeting and management are required, together with a knowledge of education issues.

SENIOR PERSONAL SECRETARY
The Senior Personal Secretary will support the work of the Chairman and Chief Executive. The successful applicant will possess excellent secretarial and organisational skills and be capable of working with key 5000 contacts.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
The Executive Officer will support the curriculum team providing administrative support for several Principal Professional Officers. The work will include attending and leading meetings and conferences and undertaking research work.

Terms and Conditions
Salary scales are inclusive of London weighting: NEO £11,812 - £14,402; SPS £8,827 - £11,877; EO £7,819 - £10,819.
Non-accrual holiday scheme, pension, 25 days annual leave, flexible system.
For an application form and further details including detailed job descriptions contact:
The Personnel Section
School Curriculum Development Committee
Newcombe House, 4th Floor, Marlborough House
London W1A 3AE
Telephone 01-629 1234 x 214
Closing date for return of applications: 15 April 1988.

FASHION - MAIL ORDER

Up-market mail order company requires similar person to join their production team.

Previous experience in fashion not essential but applicants should have a natural understanding and flair in that field and be capable of assisting with quality control.

Good opportunity for essentially numerate person with some manufacturing or retail experience.

Salary circa £10,500 depending upon experience.

Apply in writing with cv to:
Joanna Gowan
JAKE
176 Kennington Park Road
London SE11 4BT

Sales Person Required

Gravesham Homes is one of London's fastest growing property developers. That's good news for you if you are looking for a better occupation as well as a career with the rewards you deserve.

We're looking for enthusiastic and energetic negotiators for various forthcoming sites in and around London. Applicants will be expected to be of smart appearance and a car owner.

26 to 30 hours per week including weekends. Remuneration - basic salary + commission. If you are ambitious and self motivated, please apply in writing with c.v. to:
Mrs Yvonne Swann
Gravesham Homes Ltd.
The Pointe
89-91 Hatfield Road
London SE19 3JL

SECRETARIAL SPRINGBOARD

An exceptional opportunity has arisen for a bright energetic person to show their potential within an international investment bank based in EC2.

As a vital member of the Equities Sales team your varied responsibilities will include client liaison, involvement with settlements and confirmations and some administrative and secretarial back-up for two Salesmen. (Shorthand not essential) French useful. Salary to £11,500 + excellent banking benefits. If you are in your early 20s with lots to offer and the desire to advance your career telephone us now on 588 3535.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Parfums Christian Dior

require experienced SECRETARIES

to work in our busy Head Office.

Are you articulate, well presented with a lively personality? Do you possess excellent shorthand/typing speeds together with sound administrative skills and the ability to work as part of a team?

If so, please forward your resume to:
Miss Sarah Lusk, 13 Grosvenor Crescent,
London SW1X 7EE, or call 01-235 9411.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES

£20,000 - PA TO CHAIRMAN -EXCLUSIVE!

Style, confidence, French or Italian and excellent secretarial skills will lead to a role of variety and challenge as PA to the Chairman of an International Company in Belgravia. Total commitment in a fascinating and rewarding environment.

£15,000 - PA TO CHAIRMAN -EXCLUSIVE!

Professionalism and sound secretarial experience are two of the requirements of an exceptionally brilliant Investment Banker specialising in overseas projects. With a strong understanding of priorities, he needs a flexible individual who can work well as a member of the team and yet be in the forefront of the action.

01-629 9323

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BILINGUAL SECRETARY (FRENCH-ENGLISH)

Outstanding opportunity with expanding Investment Company in W1. Extremely varied and interesting position within a busy management team. Good career prospects for an ambitious applicant. Shorthand essential. SALARY NEG. AAE.

Please ring: 01 629 9652

CO-ORDINATOR/MEDICAL SECRETARY.

Full time post running the abnormal Cervical Smear service at the Samaritan Hospital for Women N.W.1. Organisational ability, initiative, and an understanding of the essential nature of this person will deal directly with an arduous public. All facilities including W.P. provided. For further details 01-635 7852.

Partner's Secretary

£12,250 + benefits

International firm of Chartered Surveyors has a vacancy for a Secretary to a partner in their Mayfair office - a spacious courtyard setting in Curzon Street.

Applicants must have good shorthand and typing, and W.P. experience. In exchange we offer a friendly office with good salary, discretionary bonus, ST, LVS, pension and medical insurance.

Please telephone, or write with c.v., to our personnel officer, Sue Bray-Coxon, 22 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1LT Tel: 01-405 6944

Weatherall Green & Smith
CHARTERED SURVEYORS

SUPER WP OPERATOR

£9-£10,000 EC4 CONSULTANCY

As a busy team of City Headhunters/Recruitment Consultants we need a well organised person to be responsible for our WP, this is microsoft but previous experience is not essential. If you are highly efficient aged 19-25 with fast accurate typing and would like to be appreciated for the pride you take in your work.

Please telephone Susan Perridge on 01 235 7307

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

Experienced and mature secretary with good all round skills including 100 wpm s/h and WP (Wordstar II) required in small friendly Head Office of public property company, to work for senior director and company secretary.

Excellent salary and benefits.

Apply in writing with full CV to:
Mr. F. M. Hearn, Company Secretary
25 Manchester Square, London W1M 5AP
No agencies please.

SALES ADMINISTRATOR

Well organized Administrator/PA required to assist Sales Director and Sales Manager of growing card publisher in EC1. As the Director is often absent from the office, the capacity to work on own initiative is essential. Excellent communication skills needed as well as the ability to liaise with customers and the sales team. Accurate typing skills required and knowledge of word processing and Lotus 123 an advantage. Salary negotiable.

Contact Lisa Huxtable 01-242 7122
No agencies

CITY SECRETARY

We are a small specialist Office Agency looking for another experienced secretary to join our successful and expanding team dealing with City Offices. Salary commensurate with experience.

Please send C.V. to Penny Bazell
RS&P
Richard Saunders & Partners
27-32 Old Jewry London EC2R 6DQ
(NO AGENCIES)

PA TO PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

c£12,000 + package

A fabulous opportunity for a competent, graduate level secretary (S/H + audio), to join a successful retail co. as PA to its young dynamic Personnel Director.

This could well be the first step to a career in personnel management and you will need to be self motivated, well organised and have experience of working at senior level. Our clients will offer you a challenging career environment and excellent package.

For further details phone us now.

PREMIER CREW PERSONNEL
01 493 4053

P-E Inbucon

KEATING

NOTE

street

SEMINAR CONSULTANT

ADVERTISING SALES ON TARGET EARNINGS £40K p.a.

ENGINEER

01-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

JOBSLOT DRAKE PERSONNEL

ASSISTANT TO AD MANAGER

Create a niche for yourself as PA to the Ad Manager. You will need to use your confident manner and good typing to liaise with photographers, typists, studio staff and managers. Compile info. and keep records. This is an opp. for a person looking for a demanding and interesting career. Call Sheila Bates on 01-734 0911

DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER

Spot on for the top PA who will enjoy the rarefied atmosphere of this superb jewellery and antique establishment. Combine your charm, tact, discretion and PR ability with excellent secretarial skills to enter into this fascinating world. This could be a step in the right direction. Call Virginia Deyong on 01-629 4031

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

Yes it's true! You can use your sec. expertise, confidence and presence to move into marketing this go ahead, exciting computer company's products and services. Start by becoming the "right hand" to this visionary director and reach for the stars!! Call Jackie Mills on 01-625 1226

PUBLISHING WHIZZ KID

Organise exhibitions and press conferences while you assist this successful director of a prosperous American publishing company. Run the office in his absence, take over client liaison and enjoy a challenging role with fantastic prospects. WP skills essential. An excellent career move. Call Liz Drake on 01-734 0911

TRAVEL THE WORLD

Join this fun company and reap the benefits of fantastic discounts on your holidays and flights. All this and more can be yours when you become PA to a top director. Your excellent shorthand and numerate skills are essential. If you're interested, Call Tracie Silk on 01-734 0911

HIGH FLYER

Job satisfaction and involvement within this on. Based in Baker St. you will act as PA to the senior partner of this small but professional co. Enjoy a 50/50 role. Liaise with clients, supervise staff and take on as much as you can. If you have audio & WP. Call Jo Nichols on 01-629 4031

BANK ON THIS

The managers of this small yet established private bank need a PA with the will to use initiative and produce reports from scratch. You'll have supervisory powers, frequent public contact and a comfortable office. Your good audio and WP skills are essential. Call Liz Bloom on 01-734 0911

ONE TO ONE

Benefit from looking after one young director whilst enjoying the team spirit guaranteed by the lively bunch in the office. If you like a friendly easy going atmosphere, yet enjoy the excitement of top level property deals of a successful company and have good shorthand and WP skills. Call Mary Forster on 01-734 0911

ADVERTISING DREAMS

So go create the job of your dreams with this expanding successful advertising company. Fully utilise your excellent Secretarial skills as PA to the Director. If you remain calm, confident and professional under pressure and enjoy using your initiative in this hectic environment. Call Sangeeta Punj on 01-221 5072

OFFICE MANAGER - INTERIOR DESIGN

Utilise all your excellent supervisory skills and ensure the smooth running of this international interior designers. Surround yourself with beautiful furnishings. Liaise with regional offices and meet lots of interesting people. For an immediate interview. Call Suzanne Kenna on 01-734 0911

Be seen with the right company

SELL AND TRADE

£15,000 Package

One of London's leading investment banks currently have an excellent opportunity to move into a sales assistant role supporting two very professional, very successful salesmen.

Your role will include constant liaison with several private clients and other small companies. So much so that you will establish such a good rapport with them that they become like personal contacts. You will also be involved in taking orders, writing letters, chasing names, selling shares and providing support. This really is a very good role in a fast moving environment.

Good organisational powers and excellent communication skills especially a confident telephone manner are essential. Previous experience or an attitude to figures would be helpful but not essential for this exciting challenge.

Age 20-25. Salary: £10,000 p.a. City Office 600 0286 ANGELA MOKIMBER

PUBLISHING SEC. £9,000. Book Publishers W.I. Reg. bright Sec. seeking an interesting position in this field. £9k. useful not ess. Details 01-899 9274 Steve Mills (rec. cons.)

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST £9,000 for Design Consultancy in W.I. WP skills, good telephone manner and presentation essential. Friendly informal atmosphere, suit non-smoker, in early 20s. Call Jill on 01-380 0880.

SECRETARY Shorthand, good spelling, age 25/35. International importing company near London Bridge. Contact Mr Keith: 01 407 0756 ext 17

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P.A. IN PROPERTY

£14,000

This expanding Property Co. is seeking an efficient and experienced P.A. for an interesting and challenging role. If you are self-motivated & ambitious with sound organisational skills then this fantastic career opportunity awaits you (Rec Cons)

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PUBLISHING PLUS

£13,200

As Sec/Sec to the Editor of the Prestigious Int. magazine Publishing Co. you will find yourself liaising with journalists and supervising all the administrative of their busy office. Unique opportunity to work in a team environment where your two year experience will be fully utilised. (Rec Cons)

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PERSONNEL

£10,000 + Mort Sub

A rare opportunity for an exceptional Sec who is looking for job satisfaction. Career development in a stimulating environment. This position calls for commitment and self motivation. WP experience a plus. Delivery a job offering genuine prospects (Rec Cons)

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FLYING HIGH

£12,000 + Free flights

Assist the Managing Director of this expanding Airline Co. and enjoy the many benefits of this prestigious company. You will be involved in all aspects of the company's operations. A challenging role with fantastic prospects. WP skills essential. (Rec Cons)

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Continued from page 37

KENSINGTON ART GALLERY

Major new Kensington Art Gallery specialising in British Art from the 1950's and 60's, requires a personable energetic P.A. to the Director. Sales experience and all round office skills essential. Age preferred 25+. Excellent terms.

Reply with handwritten C.V. to BOX A48

PA/SEC - ADVERTISING

To £9,000pa

Small young agency in the Kings Road need capable PA/Sec with initiative and sense of humour to work closely with fun, hard working team.

Please call Sara on 351 6906 (No Agencies)

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

West One Solicitors require first class person to take charge of their reception. Well spoken and smart, ability to deal with client enquiries at all levels, age 30-45, non-smoker. Salary c.£11,500. Telephone 01-436 4571 (No Agencies)

Office Manager/P.A.

This is a responsible varied position calling for a well organised person to work for a small Multi-National trading Company in W.I.

Duties will include office administration, PAYE, international liaison and Secretarial support to the Senior Vice President. Salary c.£13,500 plus excellent benefits.

Please send c.v. to L. Gratton at BOX D99

PA/SEC BELGRAVIA HOUSEHOLD

c.£14,000 a.a.s.

For London home of large Northern commercial company. Working for Chairman and visiting Director. Secretarial duties with ability to organise and administer household, social activities and general secretarial duties (good shorthand and typing). Age 25-40s.

Telephone: Mrs. Byrnes

NORMA SKEMP

Personal Services

Secretary to MD

£11,000 - £12,000

Experienced secretarial position required by quality printing company near Old Street Station. Fast accurate typing essential. Cheerful, efficient and calm with good administrative and personal skills. Suitable applicants 35+, Pension scheme. Please write or telephone

Mrs. Sheila J. Nathan

Managing Director

Newman Printers Limited

69/71 Tottenham Court Road

London W1P 0AA

01-359 5358

SECRETARY - CHISWICK W4

Required for new branch of Acie Estates. Applicants, aged 20-35 should have excellent W.P. typing and a/hand skills c.£9,500 pa + four weeks holiday.

Please apply to:

Paul or Simon Franklin 01 567 0055

TRADE IN FRENCH

£15,000 Package

One of London's leading investment houses are offering a rare opportunity to move into trading environment. You will be working on the Foreign Desk assisting traders on deals, setting trades, dealing with clients, taking orders, as well as providing the necessary secretarial support.

First Class organisational skills. Fluent French plus an aptitude for working efficiently in a very hectic pressured environment are essential characteristics for success in this role.

Age 20-25. Skills: Useful/80

CITY OFFICE 600 0286

ANGELA MORTIMER

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

Chesed based Advertising Agency requires Chairman's Secretary. Must have excellent organisational skills and be positively motivated.

Please write in confidence enclosing CV to:

Vernon Stratton 21-23 Ives Street London SW3 2ND

TEMPING TIMES

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

TEMPS! TEMP-TATION £7.50 ph

You will be appreciated and looked after temping for us. With the increased demand for high calibre temps from our clients in all areas we are always looking for additional members for our professional team. If you have 10/10 W.P. skills - especially Matutinae, Displaywrite 3 or 4, Wang, Burroughs, Wordstar - come in and see us today or telephone for an immediate interview.

01 235 8427

4 Port Street, London SW1

TEMPS £7.50ph.

(West End + City)

Join our professional team and work for leading clients in the City and West End. We have a variety of assignments available. Tel: 283 5501

David, Clare or Andrew for immediate bookings. Recruitment Consultants CITY SECRETARIES

UNEMPLOYABLE Temping is guaranteed at £6.00 per hour. We have a variety of assignments available. Tel: 283 5501

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EXECUTIVE CREME

PA Secretaries

c.£12,000

This prestigious firm of Financial Advisers in the City have opportunities for high calibre PA Secretaries.

Working in a friendly environment, you will provide secretarial support at a Partner level. The post will also involve a variety of delegated administrative tasks with frequent client contact.

These are demanding positions for confident, well-organised secretaries who enjoy using their initiative. Preferably educated to A level standard, you will have good secretarial qualifications including a sound W.P. knowledge. Previous senior level experience is essential.

Please send a full cv to:

Kirsteen Ramsay, Tax Personnel, Deloitte Haskins + Sells, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX.

Deloitte Haskins + Sells

SUPER SECRETARIES

VICTORY IN VICTORIA £11,000

The rapidly expanding division of this large consultancy group have just the job for a mature, fast thinking shorthand secretary with W.P. experience. Good organisational skills essential together with cheerful personality and an eye for detail.

A PEARL IN PROPERTY £21,000

If you are mid 20's, 'O' level educated and a confident audio secretary with Wang experience you will have a busy and interesting day working for two senior managers. This large property company really looks after its staff.

Mariene would like to wish all her temps a very happy Easter.

Make the most of the Spring break by taking advantage of our bonus scheme, excellent rates and friendly personal service.

Call Juanita Barnes 245 1268/1269 170 Sloane Street, SW1.

KOMPASS RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

A TRADITIONAL HOTEL

Assistant Secretary

For general correspondence. Good accurate typing is essential together with enthusiasm, a willingness to learn and to be part of a small team. Very good conditions. Meals provided while on duty.

Please telephone: Personnel Manager 01 499 7070

£11,000 + bonus. Working in a friendly environment, you will provide secretarial support at a Partner level. The post will also involve a variety of delegated administrative tasks with frequent client contact.

These are demanding positions for confident, well-organised secretaries who enjoy using their initiative. Preferably educated to A level standard, you will have good secretarial qualifications including a sound W.P. knowledge. Previous senior level experience is essential.

Please send a full cv to:

Kirsteen Ramsay, Tax Personnel, Deloitte Haskins + Sells, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX.

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PROPERTY BUYERS' GUIDE

LONDON PROPERTY

E L M Q U A Y

Nine Elms Lane, SW8

Exciting river views from every apartment

1, 2 and 3 bedrooms

A stunning new development on the South Bank of the Thames, with magnificent views across the river to Dolphin Square and Chelsea, Elm Quay offers elegant apartments and penthouses with terraces and balconies, and outstanding facilities, including its own leisure club, only moments from the West End and Chelsea.

• All apartments with river views

• Close to City and West End

• Gymnasium, Jacuzzi and Sauna

• Underground carparking with video surveillance

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ATHLETICS: LONDON MARATHON NEXT TARGET FOR DOUBLE WORLD CHAMPION

Kristiansen ready for another race against the clock

By Pat Butcher

no problems with my legs the way I did last year. Everything is going well; I feel I can do it. But I won't think about 2:20 this time. I'll just run as fast as I can, and hopefully do it that way. The first time I tried [London 1986], it was a little too early for me, and I ran 2:21:06 [the present record]. Then last year, I was injured in London: if you look at

Seven-day wonder: worry helps push Kristiansen along.

"I'll see after this season whether I'll take six or 12 months off. If you achieve a lot

Olympic squad to be spoilt for choice

Arve again: "She has run seriously. Soon it will be time to provide for the future. We need to be prepared. Someday nobody cares about the name."

Call for a full-time

By Andrew Longmore camp as "the jewel in the "There is a nine-hour time it is good that you can accli-

Peter Coe said: "Acclimatization is my bugbear. It's absolutely vital for an athlete to be prepared for the conditions and the important

Sharpe spoke after Norwich City withdrew David Williams, their player-coach, from the candidates for the job of part-time manager.

"My way of thinking is that having a full-time manager would be the best thing that could happen to Welsh football," Sharpe said.

of the performance of the British athletes in Seoul matches the

thing about this facility is that it is open to every member of the team." He added, though, that his son, Sebastian, will probably complete his own preparations.

This latest sponsorship brings Minet's contribution to the British Olympics team in Seoul through a series of awards schemes - including the £5,000 Times/Minet Supreme awards - to more than £250,000.

Following Williams's withdrawal, the Welsh FA will be forced to revert to its shrinking short-list, which is thought to include the name of Sharpe's manager at Swansea, Terry Yorath.

"I am quite confident Terry could do a good job as the full-time manager of Wales," Sharpe said. "I would do my best to keep him at the Vetch Field, but if he had the opportunity and wanted to take it, I will find it

Koreans will know our national anthem off by heart by the end of the 1988 Games. Among the

SQUASH RACKETS

difficult to stand in his way because managing your country is something special."

However, **Alun Evans**, the Welsh FA secretary, refused to support Sharpe's call for a full-time manager. "This is just a personal view from one of the committee members," Evans said.

Goldie too close for comfort **Change to**

age-limits is resisted

“The fact is that we have been unable to match the salaries paid by League clubs, so I don't really think the offer of a full-time position would have made that much difference to the candidates approached so far.” The appointment should be made by mid-April, he said.

● York City and Sunderland must both attend the inquest into Saturday's pitch invasion and crowd trouble at Bootham Ground, the Football Association

By Jim Railton

By Colin McQuillan

International moves to change junior age-limits this year from 19 back to 18 may encounter resistance during the junior world championships, which are playing this week at the Edinburgh Sports Club.

England is already committed to this change from June 1 this

● The West Ham United captain, Alvin Martin, who has not played since November, makes his comeback in today's reserves.

Cambridge performed a very rigorous exercise yesterday just gathering momentum and suddenly in a matter of a few

year, but Scotland is still considering the matter and the AGM of the European Squash Rackets Federation at Warmond, in The Netherlands, last week, withdrew from an immediate decision under pressure from delegates wanting more debate.

Many managers and coaches with the under-19 squads gathered in Edinburgh for this

● **Tony Agana**, Sheffield United's recent signing from

to hold a canvas in the first minute. But it became obvious just before this that Goldie were

week's individual world championship, and the team event which follows next week, feel strongly that the present junior men's framework needs little adjustment. "If it isn't broken, why mend it?" Don Mills, of the United States SRA, asked.

Watford, needs to see a specialist for a suspected hernia, leaving the second division strugglers short of forwards. Paul Williams is due to be suspended soon and although Agana could play on, even if a problem is diagnosed, doctors advise against it.

● Nick Pickering, the Coventry City midfielder player, will be

FOR THE RECORD

is more concerned that pulling back the junior age-limit could extend the competitive vacuum into which top juniors fall before they can learn to survive at senior level. "One of my coaching aims is to carry England's good young players through that most difficult period," Barrington said.

offerred a new contract this summer after rejecting a £125,000 transfer to Sunderland. He moved to Coventry from Roker Park two years ago for £120,000.

FOR THE RECORD

Association believes this aim will be supported by its initiative. "We plan to concentrate on building new emphasis at under-18 and under-21 level," Andrew Shelley, the SRA competitions manager, said.

YACHTING

Conner lends his friend a

BADMINTON **FOOTBALL**

GRAND PRIX STANDINGS: Men: 1, M Frost **SUNDAY MIXED COMBINATION: Charles**

If the groundswell of opinion against change takes formal shape in Edinburgh this week — and a petition was already circulating yesterday — England

US Virgin Islands (AP) — Jim Kilroy, from California, proved conclusively he had the fastest boat here by winning the fifth and last race of the Maxi Yacht World Championship regatta off St Thomas.

1, 700; 2, 11; 3, 11; 4, 11; 5, 11; 6, 11; 7, 11; 8, 11; 9, 11; 10, 11; 11, 11; 12, 11; 13, 11; 14, 11; 15, 11; 16, 11; 17, 11; 18, 11; 19, 11; 20, 11; 21, 11; 22, 11; 23, 11; 24, 11; 25, 11; 26, 11; 27, 11; 28, 11; 29, 11; 30, 11; 31, 11; 32, 11; 33, 11; 34, 11; 35, 11; 36, 11; 37, 11; 38, 11; 39, 11; 40, 11; 41, 11; 42, 11; 43, 11; 44, 11; 45, 11; 46, 11; 47, 11; 48, 11; 49, 11; 50, 11; 51, 11; 52, 11; 53, 11; 54, 11; 55, 11; 56, 11; 57, 11; 58, 11; 59, 11; 60, 11; 61, 11; 62, 11; 63, 11; 64, 11; 65, 11; 66, 11; 67, 11; 68, 11; 69, 11; 70, 11; 71, 11; 72, 11; 73, 11; 74, 11; 75, 11; 76, 11; 77, 11; 78, 11; 79, 11; 80, 11; 81, 11; 82, 11; 83, 11; 84, 11; 85, 11; 86, 11; 87, 11; 88, 11; 89, 11; 90, 11; 91, 11; 92, 11; 93, 11; 94, 11; 95, 11; 96, 11; 97, 11; 98, 11; 99, 11; 100, 11; 101, 11; 102, 11; 103, 11; 104, 11; 105, 11; 106, 11; 107, 11; 108, 11; 109, 11; 110, 11; 111, 11; 112, 11; 113, 11; 114, 11; 115, 11; 116, 11; 117, 11; 118, 11; 119, 11; 120, 11; 121, 11; 122, 11; 123, 11; 124, 11; 125, 11; 126, 11; 127, 11; 128, 11; 129, 11; 130, 11; 131, 11; 132, 11; 133, 11; 134, 11; 135, 11; 136, 11; 137, 11; 138, 11; 139, 11; 140, 11; 141, 11; 142, 11; 143, 11; 144, 11; 145, 11; 146, 11; 147, 11; 148, 11; 149, 11; 150, 11; 151, 11; 152, 11; 153, 11; 154, 11; 155, 11; 156, 11; 157, 11; 158, 11; 159, 11; 160, 11; 161, 11; 162, 11; 163, 11; 164, 11; 165, 11; 166, 11; 167, 11; 168, 11; 169, 11; 170, 11; 171, 11; 172, 11; 173, 11; 174, 11; 175, 11; 176, 11; 177, 11; 178, 11; 179, 11; 180, 11; 181, 11; 182, 11; 183, 11; 184, 11; 185, 11; 186, 11; 187, 11; 188, 11; 189, 11; 190, 11; 191, 11; 192, 11; 193, 11; 194, 11; 195, 11; 196, 11; 197, 11; 198, 11; 199, 11; 200, 11; 201, 11; 202, 11; 203, 11; 204, 11; 205, 11; 206, 11; 207, 11; 208, 11; 209, 11; 210, 11; 211, 11; 212, 11; 213, 11; 214, 11; 215, 11; 216, 11; 217, 11; 218, 11; 219, 11; 220, 11; 221, 11; 222, 11; 223, 11; 224, 11; 225, 11; 226, 11; 227, 11; 228, 11; 229, 11; 230, 11; 231, 11; 232, 11; 233, 11; 234, 11; 235, 11; 236, 11; 237, 11; 238, 11; 239, 11; 240, 11; 241, 11; 242, 11; 243, 11; 244, 11; 245, 11; 246, 11; 247, 11; 248, 11; 249, 11; 250, 11; 251, 11; 252, 11; 253, 11; 254, 11; 255, 11; 256, 11; 257, 11; 258, 11; 259, 11; 260, 11; 261, 11; 262, 11; 263, 11; 264, 11; 265, 11; 266, 11; 267, 11; 268, 11; 269, 11; 270, 11; 271, 11; 272, 11; 273, 11; 274, 11; 275, 11; 276, 11; 277, 11; 278, 11; 279, 11; 280, 11; 281, 11; 282, 11; 283, 11; 284, 11; 285, 11; 286, 11; 287, 11; 288, 11; 289, 11; 290, 11; 291, 11; 292, 11; 293, 11; 294, 11; 295, 11; 296, 11; 297, 11; 298, 11; 299, 11; 300, 11; 301, 11; 302, 11; 303, 11; 304, 11; 305, 11; 306, 11; 307, 11; 308, 11; 309, 11; 310, 11; 311, 11; 312, 11; 313, 11; 314, 11; 315, 11; 316, 11; 317, 11; 318, 11; 319, 11; 320, 11; 321, 11; 322, 11; 323, 11; 324, 11; 325, 11; 326, 11; 327, 11; 328, 11; 329, 11; 330, 11; 331, 11; 332, 11; 333, 11; 334, 11; 335, 11; 336, 11; 337, 11; 338, 11; 339, 11; 340, 11; 341, 11; 342, 11; 343, 11; 344, 11; 345, 11; 346, 11; 347, 11; 348, 11; 349, 11; 350, 11; 351, 11; 352, 11; 353, 11; 354, 11; 355, 11; 356, 11; 357, 11; 358, 11; 359, 11; 360, 11; 361, 11; 362, 11; 363, 11; 364, 11; 365, 11; 366, 11; 367, 11; 368, 11; 369, 11; 370, 11; 371, 11; 372, 11; 373, 11; 374, 11; 375, 11; 376, 11; 377, 11; 378, 11; 379, 11; 380, 11; 381, 11; 382, 11; 383, 11; 384, 11; 385, 11; 386, 11; 387, 11; 388, 11; 389, 11; 390, 11; 391, 11; 392, 11; 393, 11; 394, 11; 395, 11; 396, 11; 397, 11; 398, 11; 399, 11; 400, 11; 401, 11; 402, 11; 403, 11; 404, 11; 405, 11; 406, 11; 407, 11; 408, 11; 409, 11; 410, 11; 411, 11; 412, 11; 413, 11; 414, 11; 415, 11; 416, 11; 417, 11; 418, 11; 419, 11; 420, 11; 421, 11; 422, 11; 423, 11; 424, 11; 425, 11; 426, 11; 427, 11; 428, 11; 429, 11; 430, 11; 431, 11; 432, 11; 433, 11; 434, 11; 435, 11; 436, 11; 437, 11; 438, 11; 439, 11; 440, 11; 441, 11; 442, 11; 443, 11; 444, 11; 445, 11; 446, 11; 447, 11; 448, 11; 449, 11; 450, 11; 451, 11; 452, 11; 453, 11; 454, 11; 455, 11; 456, 11; 457, 11; 458, 11; 459, 11; 460, 11; 461, 11; 462, 11; 463, 11; 464, 11; 465, 11; 466, 11; 467, 11

RESULTS: First round: D Harris (Eng) 1-1, J Power (Eng) 1-1, 9-3, 9-0; A Hill (Aus) 1-1, R Godden (Eng) 1-1, 9-0, 9-1; M Carty (Aus) 1-1, K J Lim (Mal) 1-1, 9-3, 9-3, 8-2; S Moshram (Aus) 1-1, A Thoren (Swe) 1-1, 9-1, 9-4; R Hartmanen (Can) 1-1, P Nicol (Scot) 1-1, 9-4, 9-5, 3-8, 9-6; P Steel (NZ) 1-1, S Wilson (Scot) 9-3, 9-1, 9-3; S Parke (Eng) 1-1, T Rutherford (Scot) 9-3, 9-3, 9-3, 9-3.

Kilroy's Kialoa V finished the first of three regattas that make up the series with 8.5 points. Il Moro de Venezia, owned by Raul Gardini of Ravenna, Italy, finished second, with 11.75 points, and Matador, owned by Bill Koch of Boston, was third with 15.5.

OXFORD: BUSF tournament; Oxford 2, Walsley 0; London 2, Cambridge 3; Scotland 2, UAU 1; Northern Ireland 1-1611 1-1; Scotland 2

Noyce (Eng) in D Ritchie (Scott), 9-2, 10-8, 9-0; S Meads (Eng) in K White (Ire), 9-0, 9-1, 9-1; M Saterm (Fak) in G Kamior (Ger), 9-0, 9-0, 9-2; J Bonstedt (Fr) in H Kampman (Fin), 5-8, 4-8, 9-5, 9-5, 9-3; S Lamsater (Eng) in O Ruckus (WGI), 9-3, 9-3, M. Hickay (Aus) in S Olsen (Nor), 9-3, 9-1, 9-6; P Ward (Eng) in T Sonien Sheln (Bel), 9-7, 9-2, 9-7; Y Ben Shehar (Isr) in D. Hirsch (Swe), 9-8, 9-5, 4-8, 9-7; S Van Boldenik (Neth) in J Fratzburg (Can), 4-9, 10-8, 9-7, 10-8, 9-6; D Mason (Aus) in S-Lahminen (Fin), 10-8, 7-9, 8-3, 9-4; A Fahim

included Dennis Conner, winner of the 1987 America's Cup, and Tom Whidden. Conner's tactician during the challenge series. "We've all sailed together for many years," Kilroy said. "It's like a basketball team. You need to have the right people in the right place at the right time."

Vessels from France, Germany, Switzerland and the United States participated in the regatta.

London 0; Northern Ireland 0, Oxford 2; Cambridge 1, UAU # 1; Wales 1, UAU 11.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa

[illegible]

End of the road for Botham

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

Ian Botham's pursuit of a private paradise ended with devastating abruptness yesterday when he was dismissed for misconduct by the very men at Queensland he had believed would understand his wider ways. Now his turbulent cricket career has hit a storm to test even the greatest of survivors.

Botham rejected the rat-race of touring with England in favour of the good life in Australia. Lower profile cricket, along with a high commercial profile, gave him the freedom and the funds he yearned.

It lasted only a matter of months. He swore at an umpire, damaged a club bar, and assaulted an airline passenger. In rapid succession, he was fined by a court of law, fined more heavily by the Australian cricket authorities, and now, the final blow he had plainly not expected, dismissed from his playing contract by the Queensland Cricket Association.

At a meeting specially convened to discuss Botham's future, it took two-and-a-half hours for the Queensland club to arrive at a unanimous decision. Executive chairman Norm McMahon announced that Botham, having brought the game into disrepute, was in breach of his contract. It was cancelled with two years still to run.

This not only brings Botham's career in Australian domestic cricket to a premature and embarrassing end, but presents him with financial problems. The Somerset-based Carphone Group yesterday confirmed that it had cancelled its three-year Australian agreement with Botham, although the firm will continue to sponsor him in England.

Ted Markwick, the managing director of Carphone, said: "We took the decision yesterday before knowing about the Queensland outcome. There was little else we could do because we've been unable

QUEENSLAND'S DECISION

The 22 executive committee members, including Alan Border, the Queensland and Australian captain who originally invited Botham to join the team, and Greg Chappell, the former Australian captain who had always opposed his recruitment, spent only 45 minutes in reaching their decision.

Then Norm McMahon, the committee's chairman, announced:

"It is the considered opinion of the Queensland Cricket Association Executive Committee that Mr Botham, through his actions which were subject to the Code of Behaviour charges, has not complied with certain provisions of the contract between himself and the association."

"It is accepted that during the 1987-88 season, particularly in the early part of that season, the presence of Mr Botham in the Queensland state team was of benefit both to the association and to the Shield competition. To this extent it is regretted that the Association now feels that the agreement should be terminated."

Although the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) yesterday repeated its assertion of no further action on a matter it officially regards as someone else's problem, the Botham issue is certain to be discussed at next week's meeting of the Board's executive.

The England selectors are also free to act independently, rejecting any player whose conduct they deplore. Absence from this summer's series against West Indies would further seriously harm Botham's pocket. Then there is his county commitment to Worcestershire.

Mike Vickins, the secretary of Worcestershire, reacted cautiously to the news of his greatest draw-card, but conceded: "I suspect this is something our committee will wish to look at. So far, there is no date planned for a discussion."

Botham brought big crowds and tangible success to Worcestershire last season, helping them win the Refuge Assurance Sunday League while attracting valuable sponsorship. It is a moot point how long commercial concerns will want to tie their colours to a publicly discredited character.

It was, however, richly ironic that, on the very day this latest blow befell him, Botham was setting off on his Alpine elephant walk, aiming to raise £5 million for leukaemia research. The engine of the man is endlessly exhausting. But this time, I cannot believe he will shrug off his plight as the wicked manipulations of his usual *beats noires*, the media and "those men in suits and ties."

Only on Monday night, when interviewed live on television, Botham said of his Australian fines: "If I had done something terrible and brought their game into major disrepute, they would have asked me never to play there again. On the contrary, I believe they are looking forward to me coming back. If nothing else, it brightens up a dull day."

Sadly, Botham has discovered that the Australian idea of having their day brightened does not, after all, correspond with his own.

Botham's three ex-managers in four years: January 1987 - Worcestershire sign Botham in lucrative, sponsored deal, £100,000 transfer. June 1987 - Botham accuses Pakistani wicketkeeper of cheating over call. July 1987 - Botham signs to play for Queensland. May 1988 - Chesham golf barman claims Botham headbutted him. March 1988 - Victoria Times Association fines Botham £200 for offensive language during Sheffield Shield game. March 15 1988 - Botham accused of assaulting two passengers on flight between Brisbane and Perth. March 24 1988 - Australian court fines Botham £225 for mid-flight assault. Tasmanian authorities complain about dressing room damage. March 28 1988 - Fined record £100 by Australian authorities for "bringing game into disrepute". March 28 1988 - Botham sets out from Perth for charity walk and launches four-letter broadside on animal group's protest of use of elephants. March 29, 1988 - Queensland decides not to continue Botham's three-year winter contract.

BOTHAM'S CAREER TROUBLES

1981 - Accused with fellow Souths player of attacking a woman outside a nightclub, acquitted. 1983 - Fined £250 for criticizing umpire during Australian tour. 1984 - Alleged to have smoked marijuana in hotel room during New Zealand tour. 1984 - Fined £1,000 by TCCB for remarks about touring Pakistan. 1985 - Reprimanded after row with umpire at Trent Bridge. 1985 - Convicted of possessing cannabis, fined £100. 1986 - Former Miss Barbados takes of copies while Botham was touring West Indies. 1986 - Charity walk from Land's End to John O'Groats marred by claims he punched a policeman on crowd control duties. 1986 - Banned for two months from all cricket for admitting smoking cannabis. 1986 - Alleged to have called a woman "drunk" during an after-dinner speech, made to apologize. November 1986 - Supporting sacked friends John Garner and Viv Richards, Botham quits Somerset. January 1987 - Suggestions Botham may play Minor Counties cricket coach manager Bev Walker's lucrative link. He becomes

Wilander victim of injury

Dallas (Reuters) - Mats Wilander, the Swedish tennis player, withdrew from the WCT finals, which commenced here last night, with minor injuries sustained during his victory over Jimmy Connors in the Lipton championship final at Key Biscayne.

"A doctor diagnosed that Wilander sustained an ankle sprain and pulled groin ligaments in the match," John Gardner, the WCT tournament director, said.

He added that Martin Jaito, of Argentina, will replace the Swede in the eight-man draw. Wilander is still scheduled to play for his country in the Davis Cup next month.

Rex Bellamy, page 44

South Africans under fire again

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

John Kendall-Carpenter, chairman of the International Rugby Football Board which last week lifted restrictions upon players visiting South Africa, has criticized the South African Rugby Board's unseemly speed in announcing details of a proposed tour of the republic by a world XV.

Barely two hours after the IRFB had held its closing press conference, the SARB had issued details of a seven-match tour this August, including two internationals. The SARB also pointed out that, next year, South Africa would chair the IRFB annual meeting and that Jan Pickard, one of its two representatives in London last week, had been

elected to the IRFB policy committee. It was a state of euphoria which clearly embarrassed the IRFB. "Their high-profile attitude has blown everything out of all proportion," Kendall-Carpenter, a former president of the Rugby Football Union, said yesterday. "We asked them to discuss the matter and then write to the different unions for permission to approach two or three individuals to play there."

Sensitivity has never been a strong suit in South African rugby circles and other International Board representatives have privately suggested that, in the present political climate, with feelings running high in light of the Sharpeville Six case, a softly

approach would have been better. Nevertheless, the present situation could have been predicted, as exemplified by the call by Sridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary General, to heads of governments to oppose players who wished to play for the world party.

Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, emphasizing that England had opposed a tour to South Africa by a British Lions or five nations party, believes that players should be aware of the present climate of opinion on the tour and the possible consequences. He suggests, too, that "practical reasons" are against participation in the tour, since England's leading players will be involved in a tour to Australia during May and June, and

obviously can have only limited time away from their jobs. The same arguments apply to Wales, who tour New Zealand at much the same time, while the New Zealanders are due to tour Australia in June and July. It is the SARB's hope that, when all scheduled tours are completed, players from other member countries can still be persuaded to visit South Africa in mid-August.

The Irish Rugby Football Union said yesterday that it would do nothing to discourage or encourage any player asked to join a tour to South Africa. Seven years ago, when Ireland toured the republic, several leading players withdrew, but the IRFU asked its member clubs to vote on the issue and the result was in favour of the tour.

"I am certain it will be a very successful tour and I am delighted it is taking place. South Africa deserve the highest praise for the way they have developed rugby throughout the country. The game now envelops all races and creeds in the republic."

Miller said yesterday: "It is with regret that I have been unable to accept the invitation from the South African Rugby Board, but I just cannot afford the time."

"I am certain it will be a very successful tour and I am delighted it is taking place. South Africa deserve the highest praise for the way they have developed rugby throughout the country. The game now envelops all races and creeds in the republic."

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